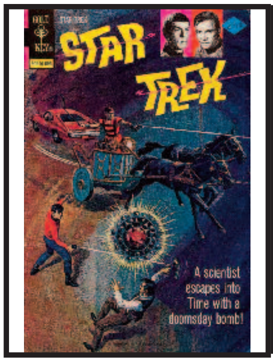
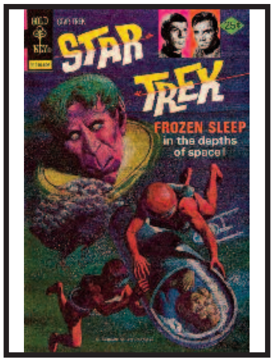
STAR TREK

VOL. 4

GOLD KEY COMIC BOOKS





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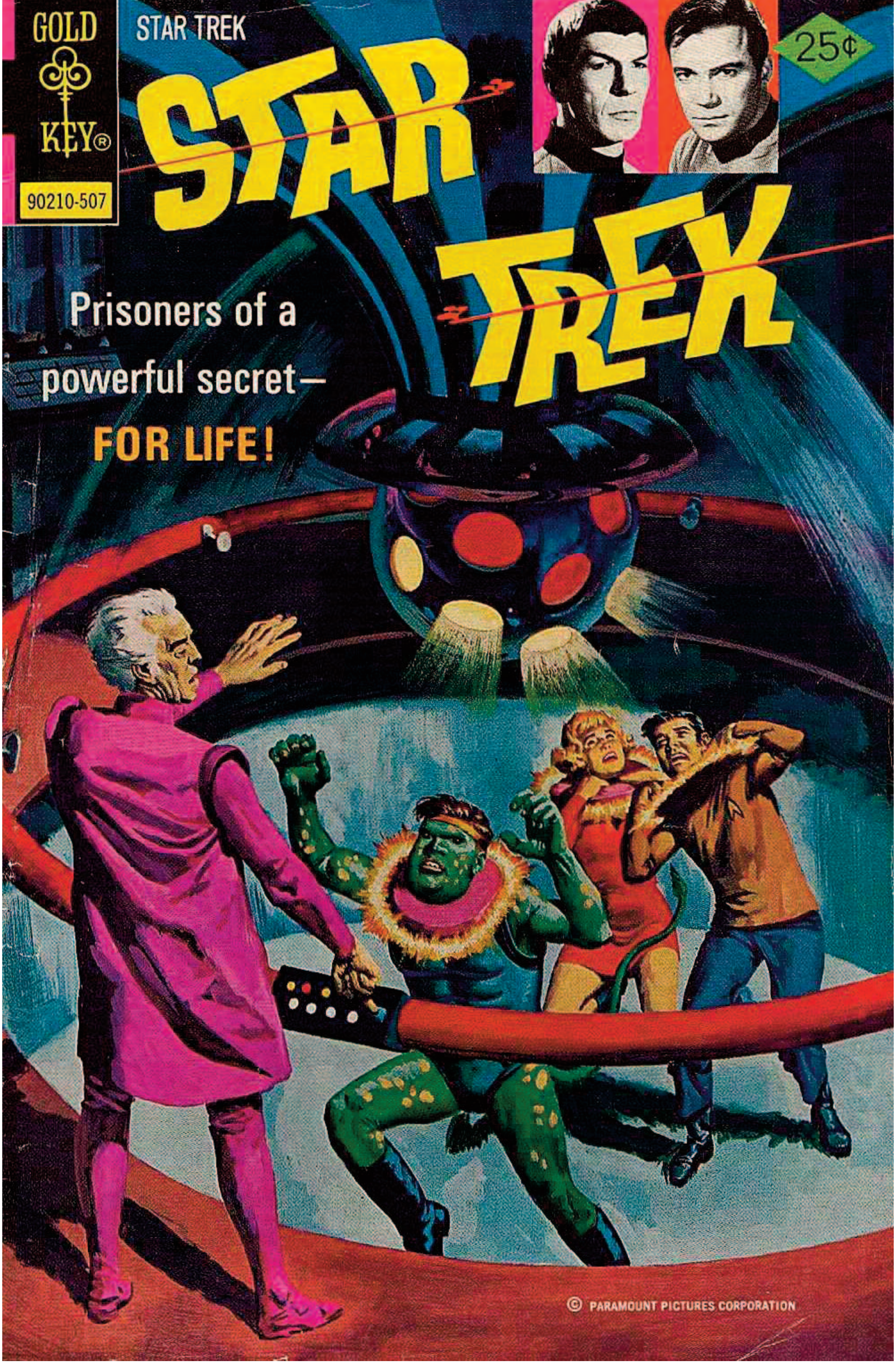
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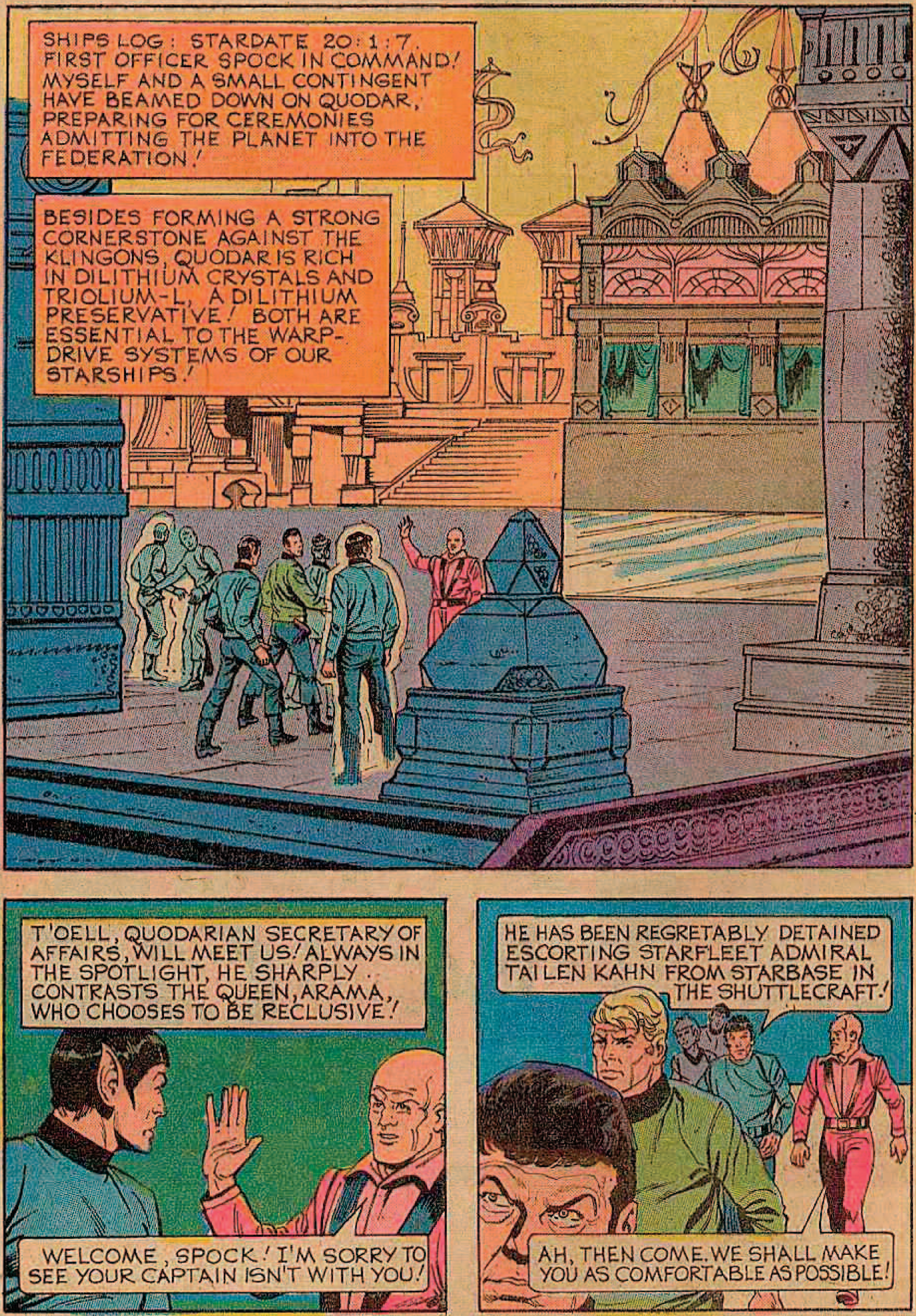
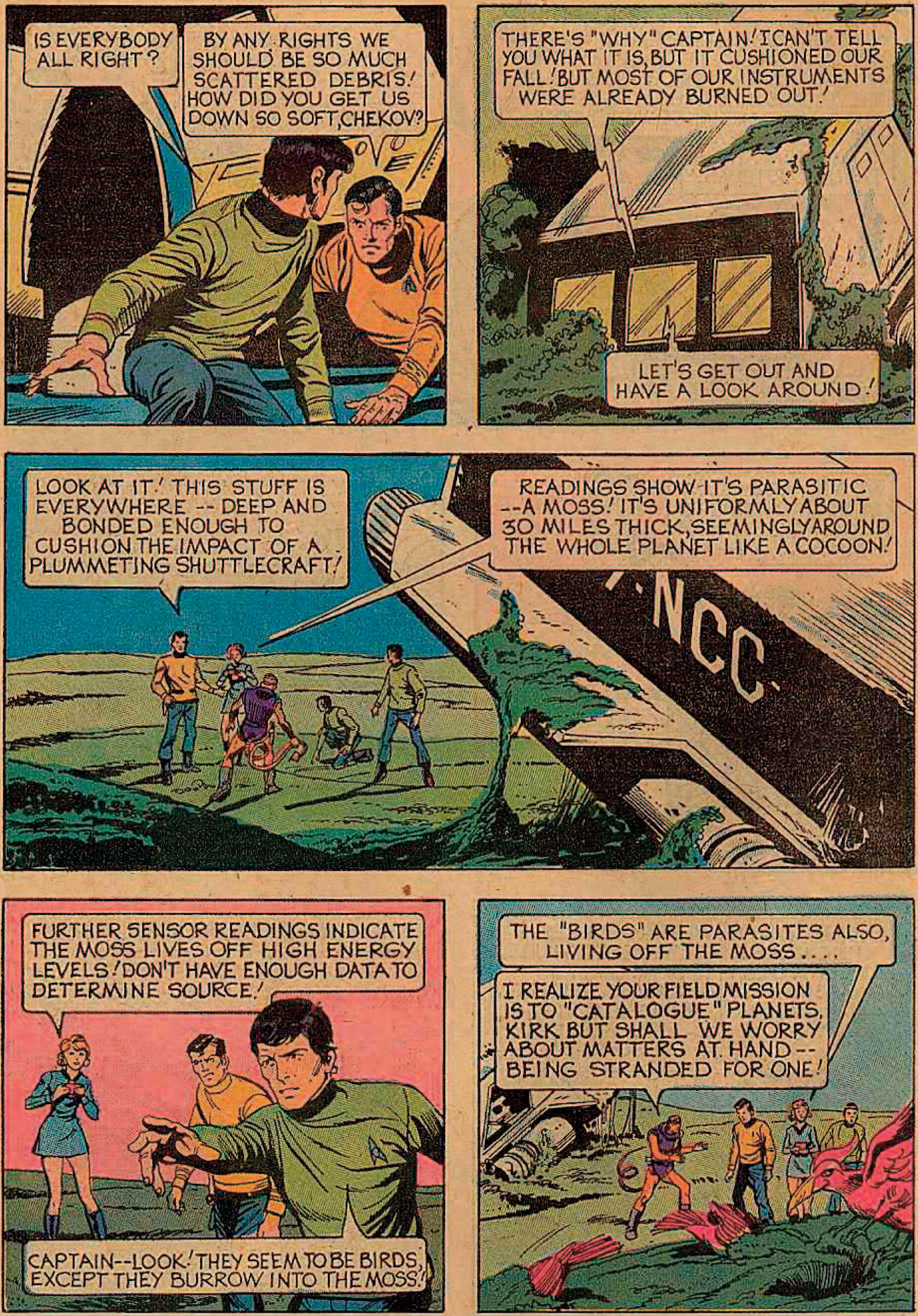
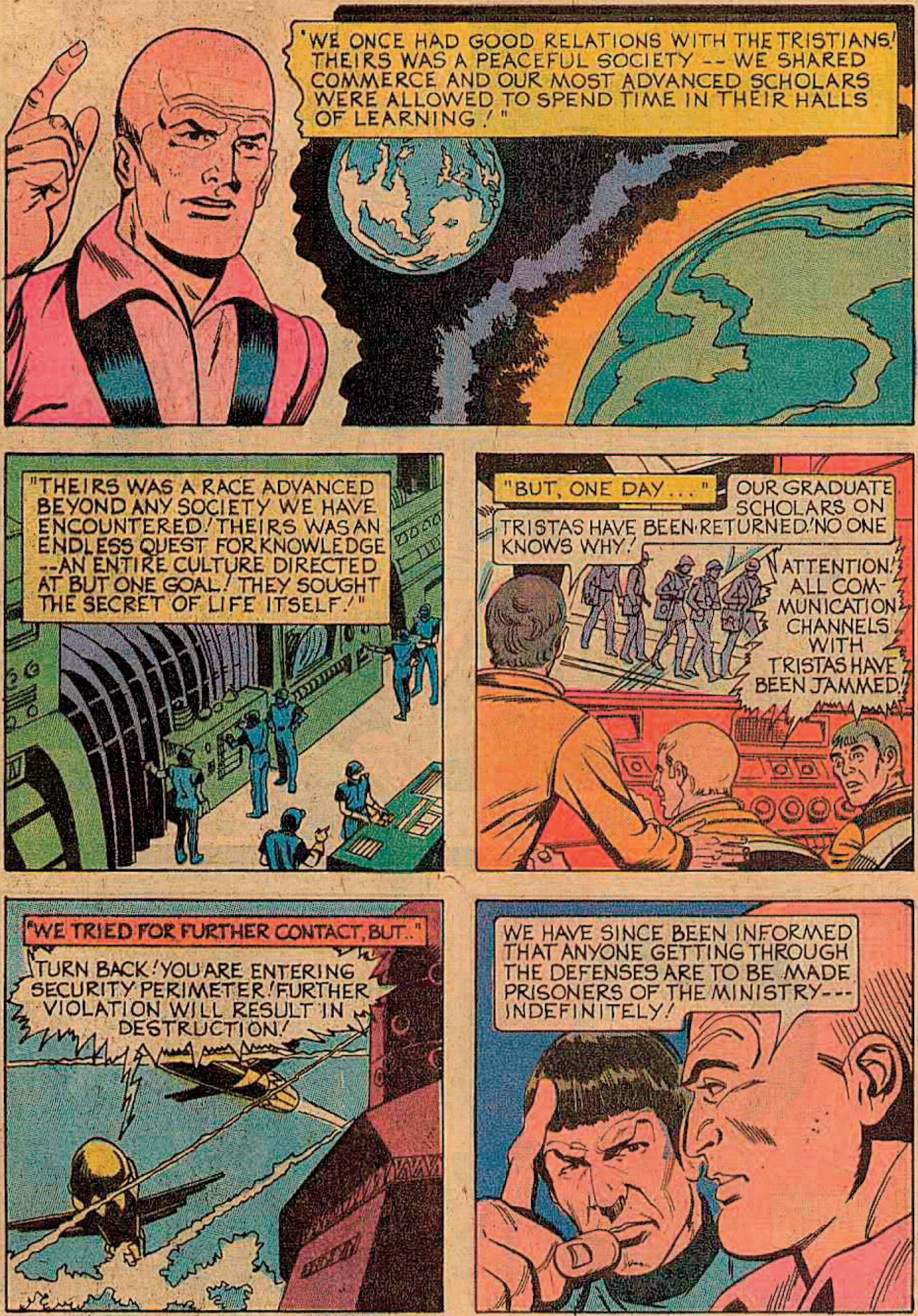

SHIPS LOG: STARDATE 20:1:7. FIRST OFFICER SPOCK IN COMMAND! MYSELF AND A SMALL CONTINGENT HAVE BEAMED DOWN ON QUODAR, PREPARING FOR CEREMONIES ADMITTING THE PLANET INTO THE FEDERATION!
BESIDES FORMING A STRONG CORNERSTONE AGAINST THE KLINGONS, QUODAR IS RICH IN DILITHIUM CRYSTALS AND TRIOLIUM-L, A DILITHIUM PRESERVATIVE! BOTH ARE ESSENTIAL TO THE WARP-DRIVE SYSTEMS OF OUR STARSHIPS!
T'OELL, QUODARIAN SECRETARY OF AFFAIRS, WILL MEET US! ALWAYS IN THE SPOTLIGHT, HE SHARPLY CONTRASTS THE QUEEN, ARAMA, WHO CHOOSES TO BE RECLUSIVE!
WELCOME, SPOCK! I'M SORRY TO SEE YOUR CAPTAIN ISN'T WITH YOU!
HE HAS BEEN REGRETABLY DETAINED ESCORTING STARFLEET ADMIRAL TAI LEN KAHN FROM STARBASE IN THE SHUTTLECRAFT!
AH, THEN COME. WE SHALL MAKE YOU AS COMFORTABLE AS POSSIBLE!

CAPTAIN'S LOG: SUPPLEMENTAL! SPOCK HAS BEEN SENT AHEAD WITH THE ENTERPRISE TO QUODAR! THE VULCANS LONG AGO ESTABLISHED DIPLOMATIC EXCHANGE WITH QUODAR AND SPOCK ALREADY IS FAMILIAR WITH THEIR CUSTOMS!
WE WILL ARRIVE AT QUODAR OURSELVES WITHIN THE STELLAR HOUR....
CAPTAIN! ALERT! A FREAK COSMIC STORM JUST MOVED INTO OUR PATH! WE'RE GOING TO HIT!
CHEKOV! REPORT!
THE STORM! IT'S KNOCKED OUT OUR ENTIRE GUIDANCE SYSTEM! WE'RE OUT OF CONTROL!
ENSIGN, THAT'S RIDICULOUS! SURELY YOU CAN COMPENSATE..!
WITH ALL DUE RESPECT, SIR, WE'RE BEING PULLED IN BY A PLANETARY MAGNETIC FIELD! I CAN'T SO MUCH AS SOFTEN THE CRASH!
BUT, WHEN THE SHIP HITS...
GLOOOMPHH!
Galileo
?


IS EVERYBODY ALL RIGHT?
BY ANY RIGHTS WE SHOULD BE SO MUCH SCATTERED DEBRIS! HOW DID YOU GET US DOWN SO SOFT, CHEKOV?
THERE'S "WHY" CAPTAIN! I CAN'T TELL YOU WHAT IT IS, BUT IT CUSHIONED OUR FALL! BUT MOST OF OUR INSTRUMENTS WERE ALREADY BURNED OUT!
LET'S GET OUT AND HAVE A LOOK AROUND!
LOOK AT IT! THIS STUFF IS EVERYWHERE -- DEEP AND BONDED ENOUGH TO CUSHION THE IMPACT OF A PLUMMETING SHUTTLECRAFT!
READINGS SHOW IT'S PARASITIC --A MOSS! IT'S UNIFORMLY ABOUT 30 MILES THICK, SEEMINGLY AROUND THE WHOLE PLANET LIKE A COCOON!
NCC
FURTHER SENSOR READINGS INDICATE THE MOSS LIVES OFF HIGH ENERGY LEVELS! DON'T HAVE ENOUGH DATA TO DETERMINE SOURCE!
CAPTAIN--LOOK! THEY SEEM TO BE BIRDS, EXCEPT THEY BURROW INTO THE MOSS!
THE "BIRDS" ARE PARASITES ALSO, LIVING OFF THE MOSS . . . .
I REALIZE YOUR FIELD MISSION IS TO "CATALOGUE" PLANETS, KIRK BUT SHALL WE WORRY ABOUT MATTERS AT HAND -- BEING STRANDED FOR ONE!

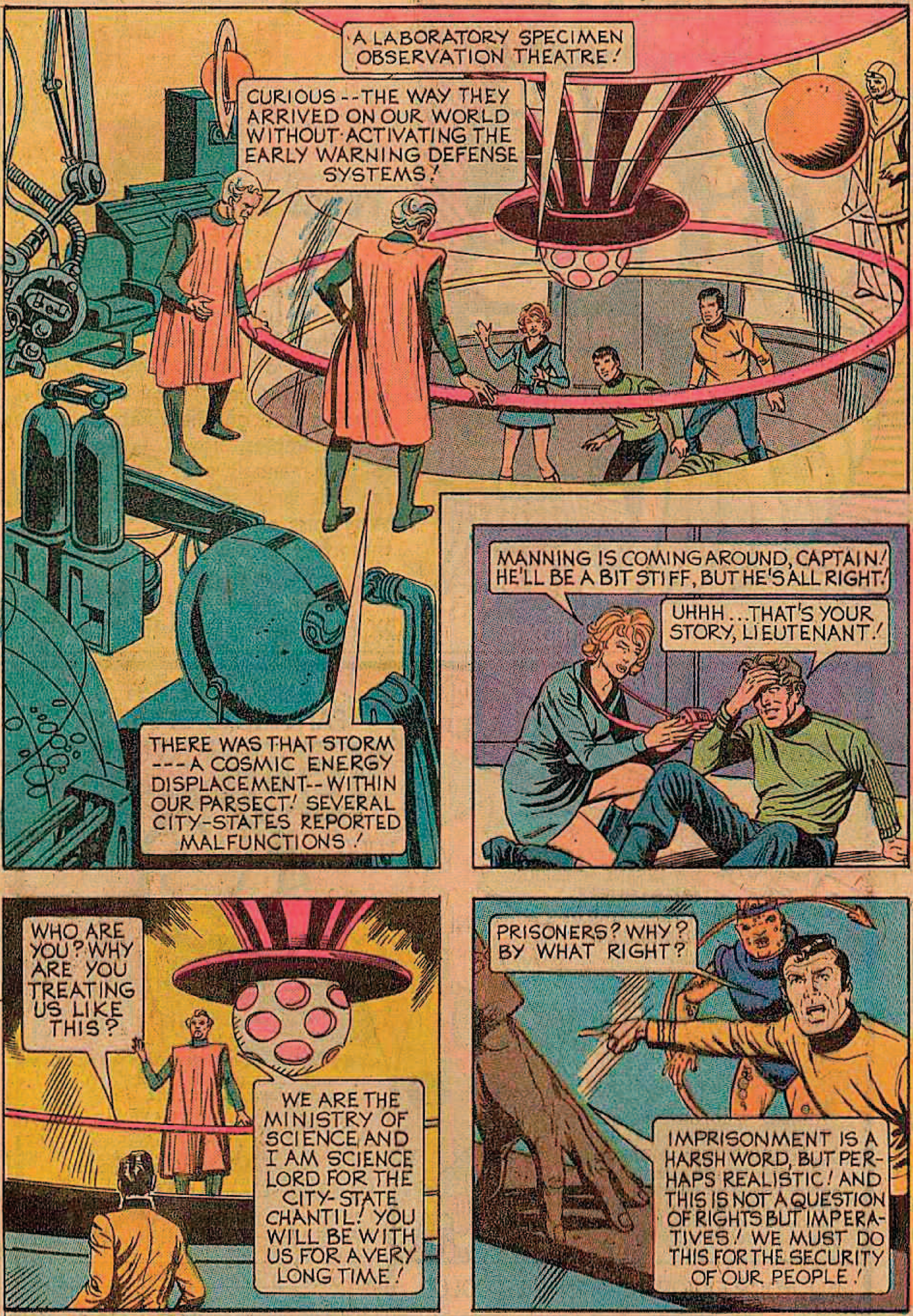
MANNING! YOU'LL STAND GUARD OUTSIDE THE SHUTTLECRAFT! WE'LL CLIMB BACK INSIDE WITH THE DISTRESS BEACON ON UNTIL HELP ARRIVES!
NO...WITH ALL DUE RESPECT! A BEACON COULD JUST AS EASILY SUMMON TROUBLE HERE! SENSORS INDICATE A CONCENTRATION OF LIVING BEINGS CLOSE BY!
CAPTAIN KIRK, NEED I REMIND YOU I AM OF SUPERIOR RANK...
YOU ARE AN ADMINISTRATIVE ADMIRAL--WITH ALL DUE RESPECT--YOU HAVE LITTLE EXPERIENCE IN THE FIELD! I CANNOT ALLOW RANK TO ENDANGER MY PEOPLE!
KIRK, DO YOU REALIZE I COULD...
I REALIZE YOU WERE RIGHT ABOUT WORRYING ABOUT IMMEDIATE PROBLEMS! SHALL WE GET ON WITH IT THEN!
SHIPS LOG: STARDATE 20:1:8 CAPTAIN KIRK AND THE SHUTTLE HAVE NOT APPEARED...WORRIED, I HAVE BEEN IN TOUCH WITH STARFLEET...!
...THAT'S ALL WE'VE BEEN ABLE TO CONFIRM!
THAT COULD BE VERY BAD! IF STARFLEET'S TRACKINGS ARE ACCURATE, YOUR SHUTTLE CRASHED ON OUR NEIGHBOR PLANET TRISTAS! YOUR FRIENDS MAY BE IN SERIOUS DANGER!

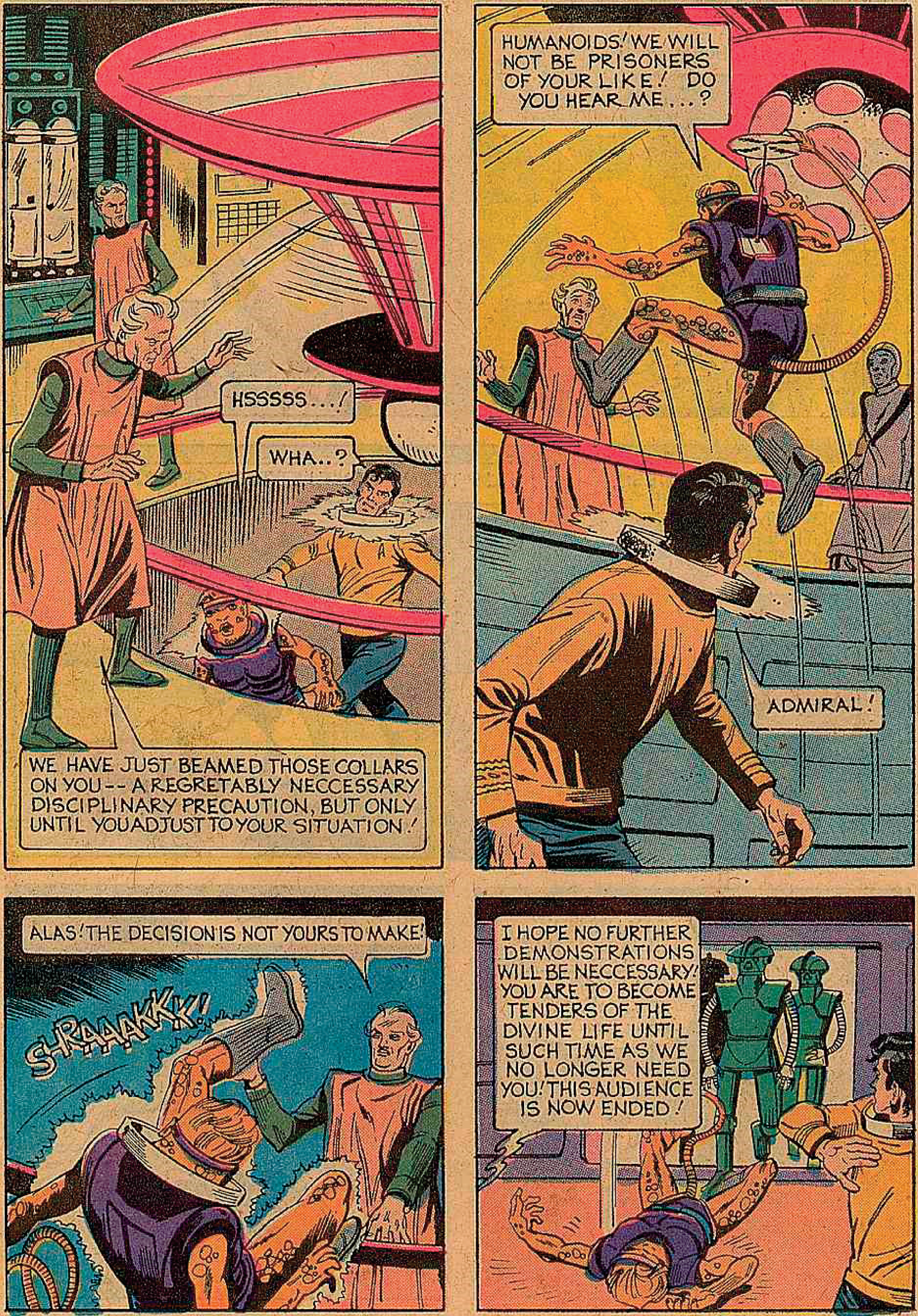

"WE ONCE HAD GOOD RELATIONS WITH THE TRISTIANS! THEIRS WAS A PEACEFUL SOCIETY -- WE SHARED COMMERCE AND OUR MOST ADVANCED SCHOLARS WERE ALLOWED TO SPEND TIME IN THEIR HALLS OF LEARNING!"
"THEIRS WAS A RACE ADVANCED BEYOND ANY SOCIETY WE HAVE ENCOUNTERED! THEIRS WAS AN ENDLESS QUEST FOR KNOWLEDGE --AN ENTIRE CULTURE DIRECTED AT BUT ONE GOAL! THEY SOUGHT THE SECRET OF LIFE ITSELF!"
"BUT, ONE DAY..."
OUR GRADUATE SCHOLARS ON TRISTAS HAVE BEEN RETURNED! NO ONE KNOWS WHY!
ATTENTION! ALL COMMUNICATION CHANNELS WITH TRISTAS HAVE BEEN JAMMED!
"WE TRIED FOR FURTHER CONTACT, BUT.."
TURN BACK! YOU ARE ENTERING SECURITY PERIMETER! FURTHER VIOLATION WILL RESULT IN DESTRUCTION!
WE HAVE SINCE BEEN INFORMED THAT ANYONE GETTING THROUGH THE DEFENSES ARE TO BE MADE PRISONERS OF THE MINISTRY--- INDEFINITELY!

MEANWHILE, ON TRISTAS, A DISCOVERY HAS BEEN MADE...
CAPTAIN...?
TRI-CORDER INDICATES ALL MATERIALS HERE --METALS, GLASS --THEY'RE ALL SYNTHESIZED FROM COMPOUNDS IN THE MOSS!
PHASERS SET ON STUN -- STAY ALERT!
WE'RE WALKING RIGHT INTO THE HANDS OF ALIENS! THIS IS SUICIDE, KIRK!
YOU! STOP!
HUH?
HSSSSSS!
YOU ARE HEREBY IN THE CUSTODY OF THE MINISTRY! YOUR VEHICLE HAS ALREADY BEEN SECURED! REMOVE YOUR WEAPONS IMMEDIATELY AND FOLLOW ME!

THERE IS NO NEED FOR HOSTILITY! WE COME IN PEACE! OUR LANDING HERE WAS AN UNAVOIDABLE MISTAKE....!
YOUR WEAPONS....!
WE'RE GETTING NOWHERE, KIRK!
NO, KAHN! WAIT! WE DON'T KNOW WHAT WE'RE UP AGAINST!
BLAST YOU, KIRK, ALL THE MORE REASON NOT TO SURRENDER! THEIR THREATS COULD BE BLUFF!
THAT GUY'S DISTRACTED WATCHING THE CAPTAIN AND THE ADMIRAL --THIS IS OUR CHANCE!
ZZZRRAAAP!
SHIPS LOG: SUPPLEMENTAL. SECRETARY T'OELL HAS PROVED RELUCTANT TO TAKE PLEAS FOR A THRU-CHANNELS RESCUE TO HIS QUEEN, BUT WITH MUCH INSISTENCE HAS AT LAST AGREED...!
I'M AWARE OF THE DANGERS OF SUCH AN ATTEMPT, DOCTOR!

I'VE CHECKED MY FIGURES--I KNOW I CAN GET THROUGH TRISTAS PLANETARY DEFENSES! IF I CAN ONLY CONVINCE ARAMA!
YOU'D THINK THAT AN "INVISIBLE" RULER WOULD CULTIVATE DISTRUST!
IN MOST CASES THAT WOULD BE TRUE. BUT HERE THE PEOPLE TRUST HER IMPLICITLY--AND SHE HAS ALWAYS LIVED UP TO THAT TRUST!
T'OELL--HE'S RETURNED!
I'M SORRY! ARAMA BID ME TELL YOU THAT YOUR AUDIENCE IS REGRETABLY DENIED! IT WOULD BE ILLOGICAL TO TAKE ACTION WHICH COULD RESULT IN WAR!...
....SHE IS PREPARING A STATEMENT!
B-BUT YOU JUST CAN'T LEAVE THE CAPTAIN AND THE OTHERS STRANDED!
I-I'M SORRY...!
ILLOGICAL? BAH! IT WOULDN'T SURPRISE ME IF ARAMA TURNED OUT TO BE VULCAN!
IN HERE, PLEASE!
WHAT DO YOU MAKE OF THIS...?
AT A GUESS, I'D SAY IT'S...


A LABORATORY SPECIMEN OBSERVATION THEATRE!
CURIOUS--THE WAY THEY ARRIVED ON OUR WORLD WITHOUT ACTIVATING THE EARLY WARNING DEFENSE SYSTEMS!
THERE WAS THAT STORM---A COSMIC ENERGY DISPLACEMENT--WITHIN OUR PARSECT! SEVERAL CITY-STATES REPORTED MALFUNCTIONS!
MANNING IS COMING AROUND, CAPTAIN! HE'LL BE A BIT STIFF, BUT HE'S ALL RIGHT!
UHHH...THAT'S YOUR STORY, LIEUTENANT!
WHO ARE YOU? WHY ARE YOU TREATING US LIKE THIS?
WE ARE THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND I AM SCIENCE LORD FOR THE CITY-STATE CHANTIL! YOU WILL BE WITH US FOR A VERY LONG TIME!
PRISONERS? WHY? BY WHAT RIGHT?
IMPRISONMENT IS A HARSH WORD, BUT PERHAPS REALISTIC! AND THIS IS NOT A QUESTION OF RIGHTS BUT IMPERATIVES! WE MUST DO THIS FOR THE SECURITY OF OUR PEOPLE!

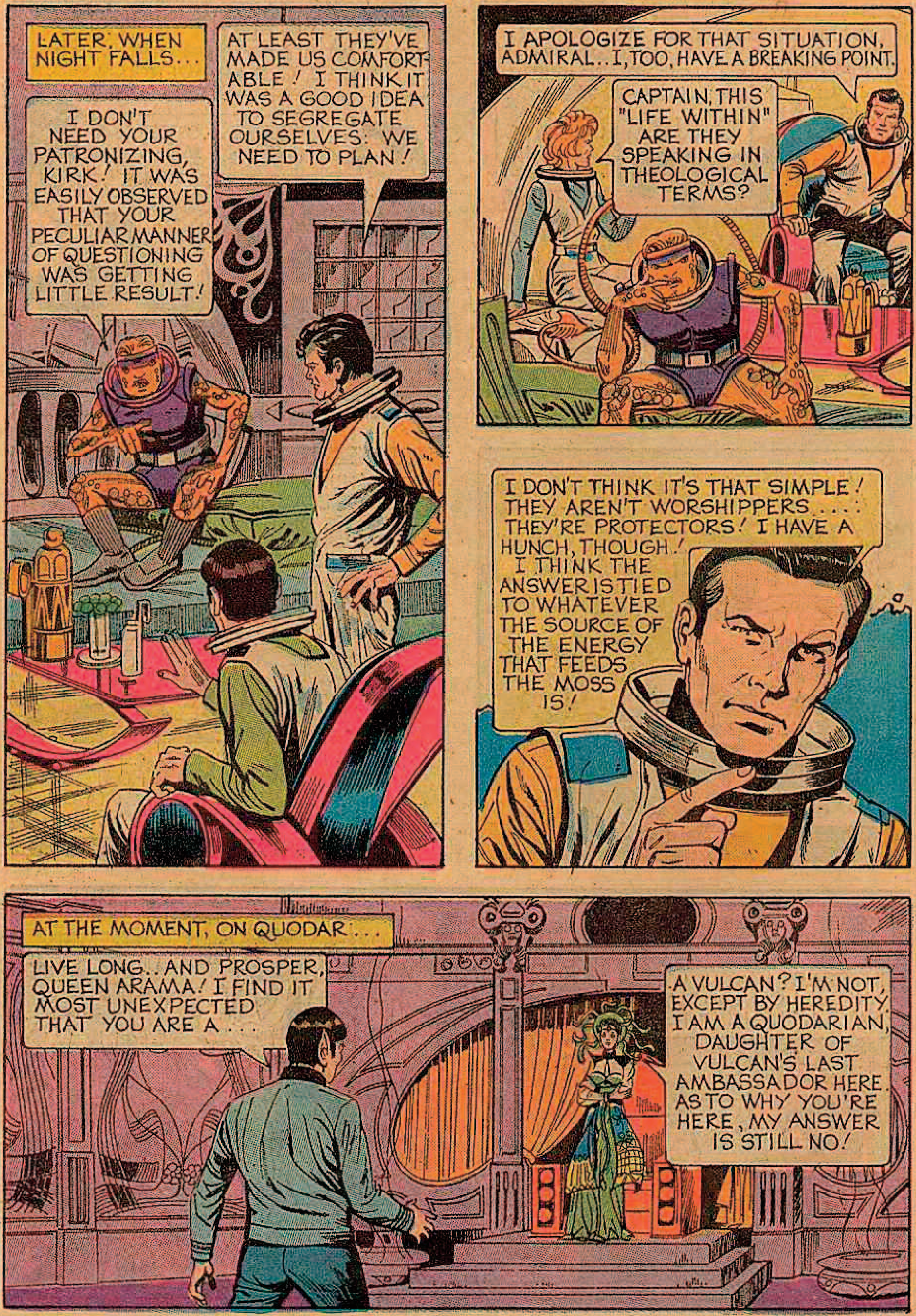

HSSSSS...!
WHA..?
WE HAVE JUST BEAMED THOSE COLLARS ON YOU -- A REGRETABLY NECCESSARY DISCIPLINARY PRECAUTION, BUT ONLY UNTIL YOU ADJUST TO YOUR SITUATION!
HUMANOIDS! WE WILL NOT BE PRISONERS OF YOUR LIKE! DO YOU HEAR ME...?
ADMIRAL!
ALAS! THE DECISION IS NOT YOURS TO MAKE!
SHRAAAKKK!
I HOPE NO FURTHER DEMONSTRATIONS WILL BE NECCESSARY! YOU ARE TO BECOME TENDERS OF THE DIVINE LIFE UNTIL SUCH TIME AS WE NO LONGER NEED YOU! THIS AUDIENCE IS NOW ENDED!

NIGHT FALLS OVER THE CAPITOL ON QUODAR . .
SNAP
HEY! DID YOU HEAR SOME-THING?
HUHHGNN!
INTRUDER! GUARDS CONVERGE! INTRUDER ALERT!
OUT OF NIGHT-DARKNESS, AS IF BIRTHED BY THE SHADOWS THEY EMERGE FROM, THREE SILHOUETTES ATTACK WITH UNRESTRAINED FURY . . . .
STOP THEM--DON'T LET THEM GET TO ARAMA!
C-CAN'T LET THEM CATCH ME . . . MUST ESCAPE TO WARN SERGEANT-AT-ARMS . .
BUT, SUDDENLY . . .
WHA . . . AHHH!

THAT'S IT! THESE INJECTIONS WILL KEEP THESE GUARDS OUT FOR ABOUT AN HOUR! THAT SHOULD BE LONG ENOUGH!
QUITE SUFFICIENT, DOCTOR! YOU WILL ALL RETURN TO YOUR QUARTERS AT ONCE!
BUT SPOCK, THERE WILL BE MORE GUARDS INSIDE! YOU'LL NEED US!
PERHAPS, BUT I CAN ILL AFFORD ANYONE BUT MY-SELF GETTING CAUGHT! RETURN TO YOUR QUARTERS --THAT IS AN ORDER!
HE'S RIGHT --- WHATEVER MUST BE DONE FROM HERE ON, IS HIS TO DO!
HE'LL MAKE IT, LEONARD! IT WOULD BE TOO ILLOGICAL FOR HIM NOT TO SUCCEED!
MOMENTS LATER, JUST OUTSIDE ARAMA'S SITTING CHAMBER...
UHHHGGN!
BUT, WHEN SPOCK ENTERS THE CHAMBER...
YOU! IT CAN'T BE ....BUT IT IS! WE NEVER SUSPECTED!

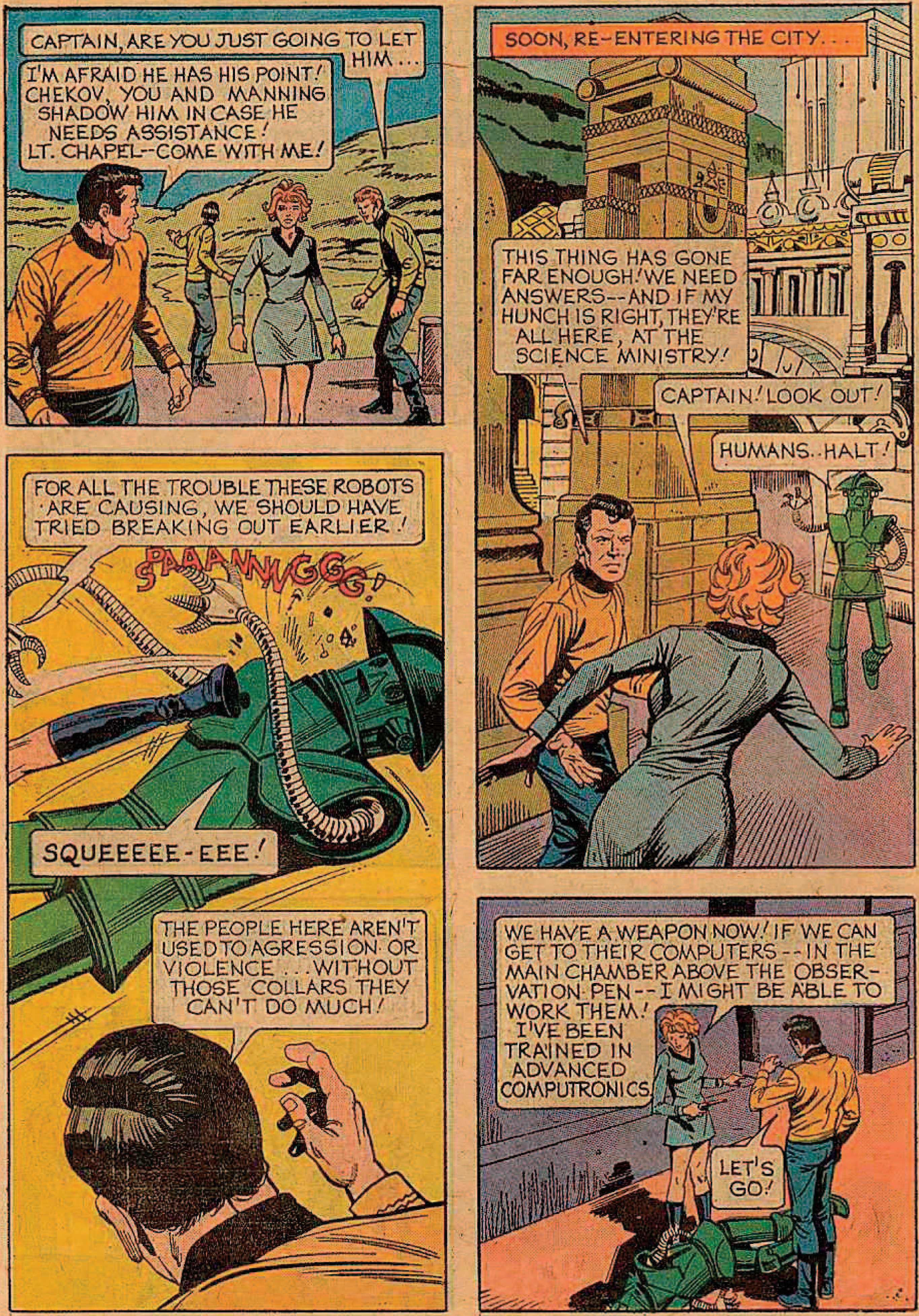
STAR TREK PART 2
THE FINAL TRUTH
CAPTAIN'S LOG: SUPPLEMENTAL! AS A RESULT OF A COSMIC STORM, OUR SHUTTLECRAFT HAS BEEN STRANDED ON TRISTAS! WE HAVE BEEN MADE VIRTUAL SLAVES, ENFORCED BY PUNISHER COLLARS!
WHAT DO YOU MAKE OF THAT HOUSING, LIEUTENANT?
SEEMS TO BE SOME SORT OF TRANSFORMER! IT MIGHT POSSIBLY BE THE SOURCE OF ENERGY FEEDING THE MOSS, BUT IT DOESN'T SEEM POWERFUL ENOUGH!
OBSERVE! YOU WILL PICK MOSS IN EVEN-TERRACED LEVELS! THIS IS IMPORTANT TO THE LIFE WITHIN! THE OTHERS HERE WILL SHOW YOU!
WELCOME! PLEASE ALLOW ME TO SHOW YOU!
WHY? WHY ARE WE PRISONERS HERE? WHAT HAPPENED TO YOUR PEOPLE?
NOT PRISONERS -- PRIVILEGED! WE SERVE THE LIFE WITHIN! IT IS WITHIN US AND WE ARE WITHIN IT!

LISTEN TO ME! THIS LIFE WITHIN --- WHAT IS IT?
IF YOU CANNOT LINK WITH IT, THEN IT IS NOT FOR YOU TO KNOW! PLEASE ASK ME NO MORE! BE HAPPY THAT YOU ARE ALLOWED TO SERVE THE PRESENCE!
I'M RESPONSIBLE FOR MY PEOPLE! NO, I WON'T STOP ASKING -- NOT UNTIL I GET ANSWERS!
PLEASE ... STOP! HURTING ME ...
PZZZZZZZZAAATTTT!
YAAAAHHH!
STOP! HUMANS HAVE VIOLATED ALIEN CONTROL DICTUM! THEY WILL BE SEGREGATED!
THEY WILL BE NO SUCH THING! RETURN TO YOUR POST, MACHINE! WE CAN ACT UPON OUR OWN DIRECTIVES!
HSSSS ...! WE'D JUST AS SOON OBEY THE EDICT! WE HAVE NO INTEREST IN YOUR LOT AND YOU OBVIOUSLY HAVE NONE IN OURS!
NISTRA-- THERE IS NOTHING WE CAN DO! THEY CANNOT UNDERSTAND AS WE DO! THAT IS WHY THEY CANNOT BE TOLD!


LATER, WHEN NIGHT FALLS...
AT LEAST THEY'VE MADE US COMFORTABLE! I THINK IT WAS A GOOD IDEA TO SEGREGATE OURSELVES: WE NEED TO PLAN!
I DON'T NEED YOUR PATRONIZING, KIRK! IT WAS EASILY OBSERVED THAT YOUR PECULIAR MANNER OF QUESTIONING WAS GETTING LITTLE RESULT!
I APOLOGIZE FOR THAT SITUATION, ADMIRAL..I, TOO, HAVE A BREAKING POINT.
CAPTAIN, THIS "LIFE WITHIN" ARE THEY SPEAKING IN THEOLOGICAL TERMS?
I DON'T THINK IT'S THAT SIMPLE! THEY AREN'T WORSHIPPERS.... THEY'RE PROTECTORS! I HAVE A HUNCH, THOUGH! I THINK THE ANSWER IS TIED TO WHATEVER THE SOURCE OF THE ENERGY THAT FEEDS THE MOSS IS!
AT THE MOMENT, ON QUODAR...
LIVE LONG.. AND PROSPER, QUEEN ARAMA! I FIND IT MOST UNEXPECTED THAT YOU ARE A...
A VULCAN? I'M NOT, EXCEPT BY HEREDITY. I AM A QUODARIAN, DAUGHTER OF VULCAN'S LAST AMBASSADOR HERE. AS TO WHY YOU'RE HERE, MY ANSWER IS STILL NO!

IS THIS HOW YOU WOULD SHOW YOUR LOYALTY TO STARFLEET AND THE FEDERATION - BY IGNORING A DISTRESS IMPERATIVE?
I FIND THAT MOST UNCALLED FOR SPOCK! YOU'RE ASKING ME TO CHANCE WAR WITH A TECHNOLOGICALLY SUPERIOR CULTURE!
I KNOW THEIR CAPABILITIES--SUCH A WAR WOULD HARDLY LAST A DAY! DO YOU WISH THAT ON MY PEOPLE? DOES THE FEDERATION?
I-I'M SORRY, ARAMA- I DON'T KNOW WHAT CAME OVER ME! YOU ARE CORRECT... AND LOGICAL!
NIGHT ON QUODAR PASSES, RESTLESS, ANXIOUS! NO MORE WORDS ARE EXCHANGED BETWEEN SPOCK AND ARAMA, BUT SOME HOURS LATER....
HEY-- MONITOR READOUT SAYS WE HAVE A STARSCOUT TAKING OFF!
LOOK! THERE IT IS NOW --- BUT IT'S UNAUTHORIZED!
INSIDE THE STARSCOUT...
I PRESUME I AM SPEAKING TO MR. SPOCK! WE HAVE BROADCAST TO TRISTAS THAT ONE OF OUR STARSCOUTS HAS BEEN STOLEN! YOUR HUMAN HALF IS VERY PREDICTABLE ..GOOD LUCK, SPOCK!

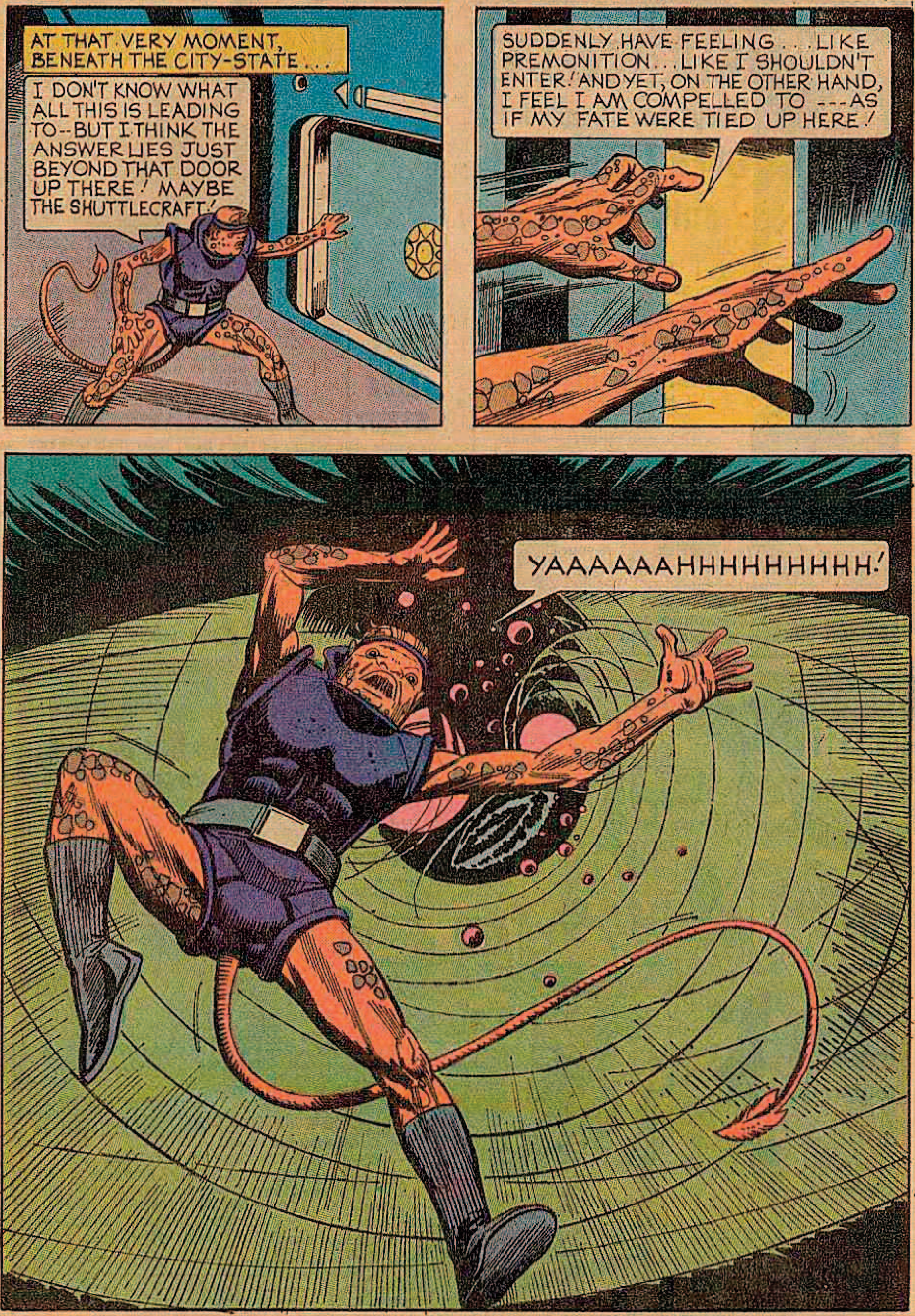
THIS HAS BEEN A NIGHT OF INTRIGUES, LONG AND RESTLESS . . . ON TRISTAS AS WELL AS QUODAR . . . .
CAPTAIN, IF I COULD KNOCK OUT THOSE TWO ROBOTS . .
NOT GOOD ENOUGH -- YOU COULDN'T GET THEM BOTH FAST ENOUGH !
BAH! THE ANSWER TO OUR PLIGHT IS RIGHT IN FRONT OF US! WELL, IF KIRK WON'T ACT ON IT, I WILL . . . !
KAHN APPROACHES CAUTIOUSLY, AS IF TO EMPTY HIS SHOULDER BAG! BUT . . . .
SPA-TAAAANNG!
KRAAMM!
ZZZRAACCKK!
SO TELL ME, KIRK, HOW DO YOU FIND MY PERFORMANCE IN THE FIELD NOW . . OR HAD IT NEVER OCCURRED TO YOU THAT I WAS NEVER GIVEN THE CHANCE FOR SUCH EXPERIENCE! I HOPE I CAN TRUST YOU TO FIND SOMEPLACE TO HIDE . .
. . I WANT YOU ALIVE AND WELL WHEN I COME BACK! WELL ENOUGH FOR A COURT MARTIAL! IN THE MEANTIME I'M GOING TO FIND OUT WHERE THEY'VE HIDDEN OUR SHUTTLECRAFT!



CAPTAIN, ARE YOU JUST GOING TO LET HIM...
I'M AFRAID HE HAS HIS POINT! CHEKOV, YOU AND MANNING SHADOW HIM IN CASE HE NEEDS ASSISTANCE! LT. CHAPEL--COME WITH ME!
FOR ALL THE TROUBLE THESE ROBOTS ARE CAUSING, WE SHOULD HAVE TRIED BREAKING OUT EARLIER!
SPAAANNGGG!
SQUEEEEE-EEE!
THE PEOPLE HERE AREN'T USED TO AGRESSION OR VIOLENCE ...WITHOUT THOSE COLLARS THEY CAN'T DO MUCH!
SOON, RE-ENTERING THE CITY...
THIS THING HAS GONE FAR ENOUGH! WE NEED ANSWERS--AND IF MY HUNCH IS RIGHT, THEY'RE ALL HERE, AT THE SCIENCE MINISTRY!
CAPTAIN! LOOK OUT!
HUMANS..HALT!
WE HAVE A WEAPON NOW! IF WE CAN GET TO THEIR COMPUTERS--IN THE MAIN CHAMBER ABOVE THE OBSERVATION PEN--I MIGHT BE ABLE TO WORK THEM! I'VE BEEN TRAINED IN ADVANCED COMPUTRONICS
LET'S GO!

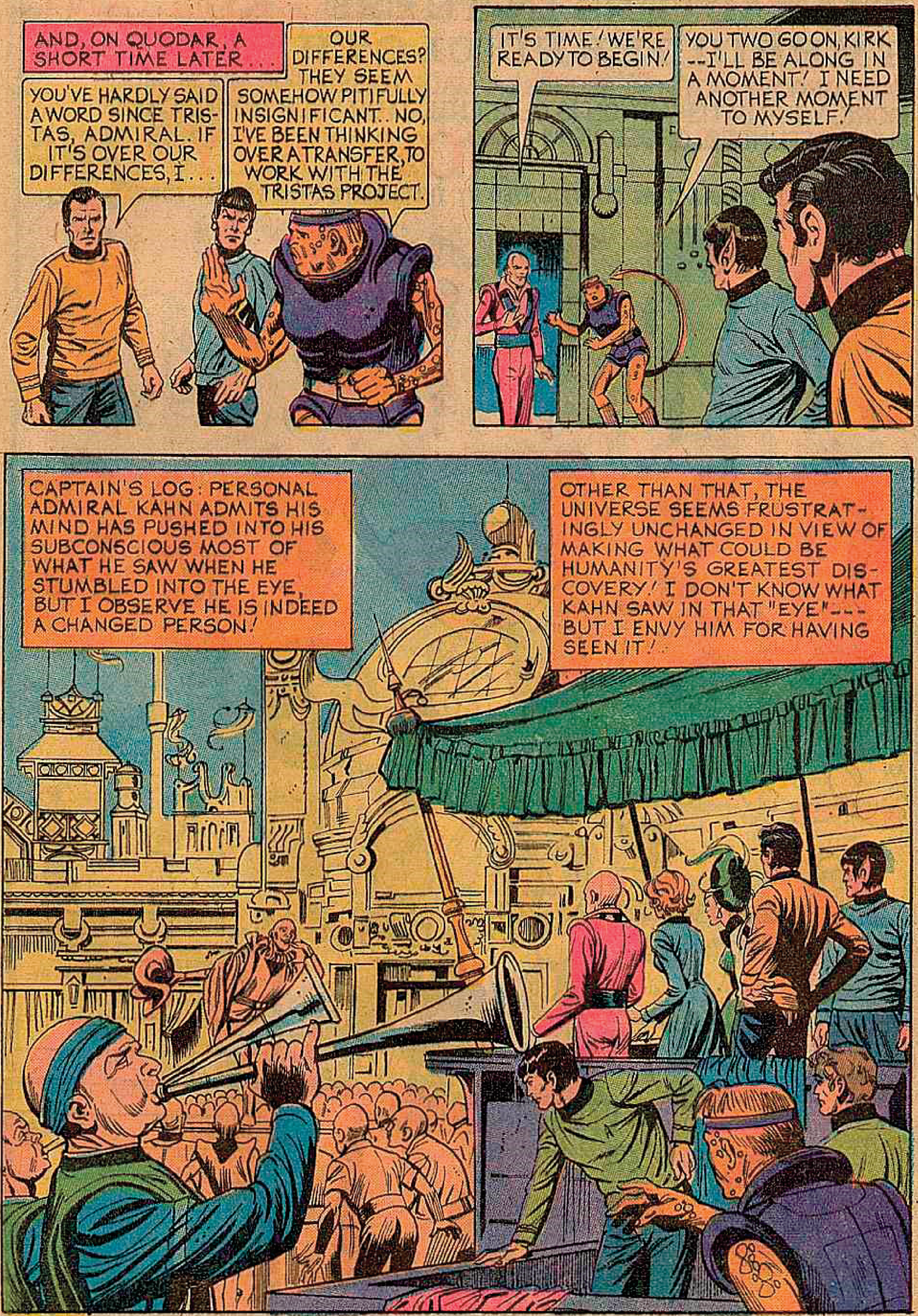
MOMENTS LATER...
NO! THE HUMANS ... UHHH!
MINISTER TONAR! I WANT ANSWERS -- NOW!
I'VE SEEN ENOUGH HERE TO REALIZE THAT ALL YOUR THREATS AND DEFENSES ARE BLUFF! WELL I CAN SHOW YOU VIOLENCE THAT WOULD TURN THIS CITY-STATE INSIDE OUT BEFORE YOU COULD EVEN ORGANIZE YOURSELVES! TALK!
YOU FOOL! YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU ARE DOING! IT'S YOUR VERY VIOLENCE THAT I'M PROTECTING OUR SECRET FROM
CAPTAIN, I THINK I HAVE THIS PANEL PROGRAMMED ... BUT I'M GETTING SOME PRETTY STRANGE READOUTS
I ASKED FOR A CATALOGUE READOUT ON ANYTHING PERTAINING TO "THE LIFE WITHIN"-- BUT I'M GETTING DATA ON PSYCHOSOCIOLOGICAL EXPERIMENTATION AND INTERPLANETARY INSECT SURVEYS!
IT'S ALL BEGINNING TO MAKE A CRAZY SORT OF SENSE NOW! THIS CITY-- IT'S LIKE A BEE-HIVE! WORKERS! ROBOT DRONES!.. AND YOU...
VERY WELL, CAPTAIN KIRK, YOU WILL HAVE YOUR ANSWERS! NOW!

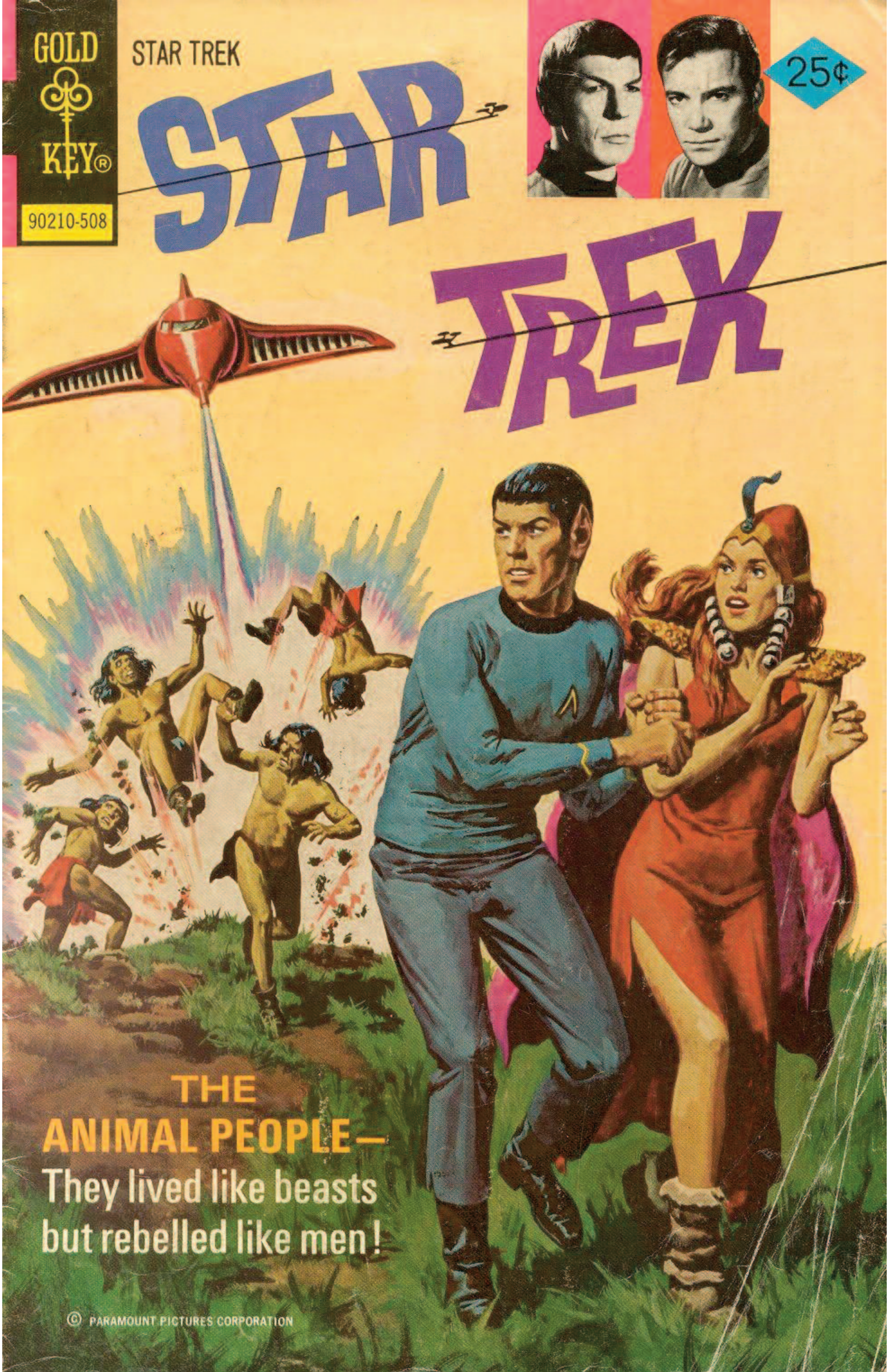
OUR RACE EMBRACED THE SECRETS AND SCIENCES OF THE UNIVERSE, YET WE DID NOT KNOW OUR OWN PLANET! BENEATH THE MOSS THERE IS A LAYER THAT DEFIES ANALYSIS BUT WE FINALLY MANAGED TO PENETRATE THAT LAYER..
IT WAS DISCOVERED THAT OUR PLANET WAS ACTUALLY HOLLOW, LIKE A GREAT EGG! IN THAT "EGG" WERE ENERGIES THAT WERE LIFE IN ITS MOST FUNDAMENTAL FORM-- A LINK TO CREATION ITSELF!
"THE SCIENCE MINISTRY COUNCIL, WITHOUT INFORMING THE PEOPLE, DESIGNED A UNIQUE EXPERIMENT! SOON, PERHAPS, THE SECRETS OF THE UNIVERSE ITSELF WOULD BE OURS --- OUR FINAL GOAL TO BE ACHIEVED!"
"BUT I EMBARKED ON MY OWN EXPERIMENT, ONE TO SAVE OUR RACE FROM DESTRUCTION! THE PEOPLE WERE MERELY TOLD THAT THE FORCES OF CREATION ITSELF HAD BEEN DISCOVERED!"
"THEY WERE TOLD ONLY THAT WE HAD BECOME TENDERS OF AN EGG THAT WOULD HATCH THE ULTIMATE LIVING CREATION!"


AT THAT VERY MOMENT, BENEATH THE CITY-STATE . . .
I DON'T KNOW WHAT ALL THIS IS LEADING TO--BUT I THINK THE ANSWER LIES JUST BEYOND THAT DOOR UP THERE! MAYBE THE SHUTTLECRAFT!
SUDDENLY HAVE FEELING . . . LIKE PREMONITION . . . LIKE I SHOULDN'T ENTER! AND YET, ON THE OTHER HAND, I FEEL I AM COMPELLED TO ---AS IF MY FATE WERE TIED UP HERE!
YAAAAAAHHHHHHHHH!

I AM THE UNIVERSE . . . I AM ALONE . . . SOMEBODY HELP MEEEE . . . . !
IS THIS TONAR'S DOING?
NO! LET US HOPE THAT WHAT HE SAW DIDN'T PERMANENTLY DAMAGE HIS BRAIN!
IF TONAR ONLY REALIZED THAT IN SMALL DOSES, THE "EYE" COULD EXPAND THE MIND OF ANY THINKING CREATURE!
BUT THAT IS FOR THEM TO RECONCILE -- WHEN EVERYONE IS READY TO ACCEPT US, WE SHALL REVEAL OURSELVES!
WE CREATED THE EYE -- A SHAPE YOUR MIND CONJURES FOR IDENTIFICATION SINCE THE MASS OF ENERGY HAS NO FORM -- FROM THE UNSTABLE FORCES CONTAINED IN OUR PLANET! MENTAL ENERGY IS THE REQUIRED TOOL . . . .
KIRK, THAT THING YOU SEE ON THE SCREEN IS THE SIX SCIENTISTS THAT WERE SENT TO STUDY THAT ENERGY! ALL SIX OF THEM!
A COLLECTIVE INTELLIGENCE --- PURE UNSIPHONED MENTAL ENERGY!
MORE THAN YOU KNOW! THE EYE HAS INCREASED THEIR ENERGIES A HUNDREDFOLD! THE EYE'S EMANATIONS REACH TO THE FURTHEST REACHES OF THIS GALAXY -- AND THEY CAN NOW TRAVEL WITH IT!

DON'T YOU SEE...WE WERE A CIVILIZATION AT ITS VERY PINNACLE! WE WOULD HAVE NOTHING MORE TO LIVE FOR IF THE SECRETS OF THE EYE WERE REVEALED. OUR KNOWLEDGE WOULD HAVE KILLED US!
KAHN!
I SEE A MAN WHO IS EITHER SHORT-SIGHTED OR VAIN ENOUGH TO BELIEVE THE UNIVERSE IS THAT FINITE! OR IS YOUR REAL MOTIVE THAT YOU FEAR THE IDEA THAT YOUR RACE'S ENTIRE LIFESTYLE WILL BE TOTALLY CHANGED?
AND NOW THAT YOU HAVE LEARNED OF IT, AS I FEARED, YOU WILL EITHER CONTROL IT OR DESTROY IT! AM I WRONG, KIRK?
THERE ARE THOSE WHO WILL TRY.... THE FEDERATION CAN PROTECT YOU, ALLOW YOU TO SHARE YOUR KNOW-LEDGE WITH A UNITED SCIENTIFIC COLLECTIVE! WE ARE NOT EXPLOITERS, TONAR--AND WE'RE NOT CONQUERORS!
PLEASE EXCUSE ME, CAPTAIN KIRK..I HAVE SOMETHING TO TELL MY PEOPLE!
IT WOULD SEEM I WAS NOT NEEDED AFTER ALL, CAPTAIN! I FOUND CHEKOV AND MANNING LOOKING FOR ADMIRAL KAHN! THEY BROUGHT ME HERE!
SPOCK, I'LL EXPLAIN IT ALL LATER..... THE F.P.S. CAN WRAP UP HERE! LET'S GET BACK TO QUODAR!


AND, ON QUODAR, A SHORT TIME LATER...
YOU'VE HARDLY SAID A WORD SINCE TRISTAS, ADMIRAL. IF IT'S OVER OUR DIFFERENCES, I...
OUR DIFFERENCES? THEY SEEM SOMEHOW PITIFULLY INSIGNIFICANT.. NO, I'VE BEEN THINKING OVER A TRANSFER, TO WORK WITH THE TRISTAS PROJECT.
IT'S TIME! WE'RE READY TO BEGIN!
YOU TWO GO ON, KIRK --I'LL BE ALONG IN A MOMENT! I NEED ANOTHER MOMENT TO MYSELF!
CAPTAIN'S LOG: PERSONAL. ADMIRAL KAHN ADMITS HIS MIND HAS PUSHED INTO HIS SUBCONSCIOUS MOST OF WHAT HE SAW WHEN HE STUMBLED INTO THE EYE, BUT I OBSERVE HE IS INDEED A CHANGED PERSON!
OTHER THAN THAT, THE UNIVERSE SEEMS FRUSTRATINGLY UNCHANGED IN VIEW OF MAKING WHAT COULD BE HUMANITY'S GREATEST DISCOVERY! I DON'T KNOW WHAT KAHN SAW IN THAT "EYE"--- BUT I ENVY HIM FOR HAVING SEEN IT!


GOLD KEY®
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STAR TREK
25¢
STAR TREK
THE ANIMAL PEOPLE—
They lived like beasts but rebelled like men!
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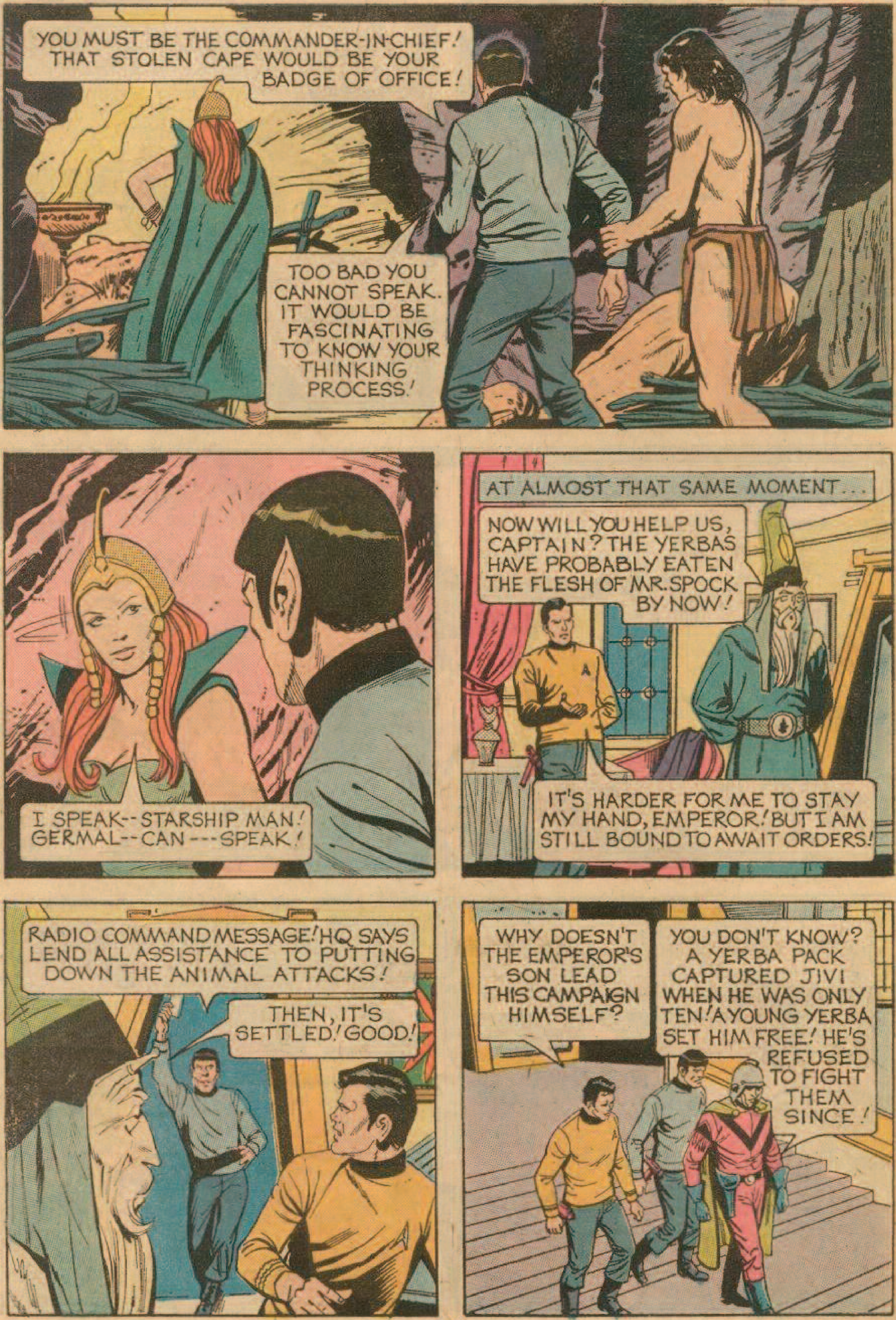
CAPTAIN'S LOG: STAR DATE 19:26:11 AN INTERSTELLAR DISTRESS CALL HAS BROUGHT OUR STARSHIP TO -- THE PLANET HERCULA!
THE MESSAGE INDICATED SOME PROBLEM WITH MADDENED ANIMALS!
THAT ADVANCED PHASER THIS MAJOR IS PACKING COULD HANDLE ANY PACK OF WILD DOGS!
IT'S MORE COMPLICATED THAN MARAUDING BEASTS! THESE ANIMALS HAVE BEGUN TO LEARN WEAPONS' USE THEMSELVES!
WHICH MAKES IT A FAR MORE COMPLEX MATTER THAN JUST SOME WILD DOGS! AHH --- THE PALACE!
I AM SORRY TO IMPOSE OUR PROBLEMS UPON YOU GENTLEMEN! AND I WILL UNDERSTAND YOUR RELUCTANCE TO HELP US!
WE WILL GIVE ALL ASSISTANCE CONSISTENT WITH THE GUIDELINES UNDER WHICH WE MUST OPERATE, EMPEROR LIDORO!
I BELIEVE MY SON, GENERAL JIVI, WHO IS OUR SUPREME MILITARY COMMANDER CAN EXPLAIN IT BEST!
ON THE OTHER HAND, I MAY BE THE WORST POSSIBLE PERSON TO DISCUSS THIS!
YOU SEE, I AM IN TOTAL DISAGREEMENT WITH THIS "WAR" AGAINST THE YERBAS!
A MILITARY MAN OPPOSING A MILITARY SOLUTION TO A PROBLEM? UNUSUAL!

MY SON'S COMPASSION FOR THESE WILD ANIMALS IMPAIRS HIS MILITARY JUDGMENT! I HAVE LEARNED TO OVERLOOK THAT!
DO YOU HAVE SOME PICTURES OF THE BEASTS-THE YERBAS I BELIEVE YOU CALL THEM?
BETTER STILL, I SHALL TAKE YOU TO THE ZOO WHERE YOU CAN SEE SOME AT FIRST HAND!
GREAT! I'D LIKE TO SEE A BEAST THAT CAN TERRORIZE A WHOLE WORLD!
HOOT, MON! THEY'RE NO BEASTS! THEY-THEY'RE--
SHOCKING, EH? SOME FREAK OF NATURE THAT MAKES THEM LOOK ALMOST INTELLIGENT! AND THEY ARE BRIGHT, TOO -- FOR BEASTS!
YEEK!
YEEK!
FANTASTIC! SKULLS LARGE ENOUGH FOR ADVANCED BRAINS! OPPOSITE THUMBS! TWO BASICS FOR INTELLIGENT BEINGS!
YEEK!

SUDDENLY . . .
YARRRRGH!
GUARD! SERARATE THEM BEFORE THEY KILL EACH OTHER!
YEEK! YEEEEEEEEEEEK!
BACK! GET BACK, YOU FILTHY BEAST!
CRRZZZZZZ!
AAAYEEEEEEEEK!
FASCINATING! WILD BEHAVIOR IN SUCH ADVANCED LOOKING CREATURES!
THEY ARE BRIGHT! WE USE THEM AS HEAVY LABORERS AND FOR SOME OF OUR UGLIER TASKS! BUT ---
---RIGHT NOW, YERBA PACKS ARE KILLING OUR LIVESTOCK, EVEN OUR CITIZENS! SOON THIS MADNESS WILL SPREAD EVERYWHERE!
AS I SAID, EMPEROR LIDORO, ANY MILITARY ASSISTANCE MUST AWAIT ORDERS FROM OUR HQ!
THAT NIGHT, AS A FURTIVE FIGURE DETACHES ITSELF FROM THE SHADOWS OF THE PALACE YARD . . .
HALT! OR I'LL OPEN FIRE!

AHHH! ONE OF THE STARSHIP MEN! SORRY, NO ONE IS PERMITTED ON THE STREETS AFTER SUNDOWN!
AND A VERY WISE POLICY, I'M SURE --- WITH THESE BANDS OF YERBAS DESCENDING FROM THE HILLS! THANK YOU, GUARD!
MR. SPOCK PRETENDS TO RETURN TO HIS QUARTERS, BUT MOMENTS LATER...
THERE ARE SOME THINGS A MAN SHOULDN'T BE PROTECTED AGAINST! AND ONE OF THEM IS KNOWLEDGE!
THERE IS THE MOST PUZZLING SIGHT OF ALL-- A YOUNG YERBA TAKING CARE OF AN OLD ONE!
CARING FOR THE YOUNG IS INSTINCTIVE TO EVEN MANY LOWER ANIMALS BUT CARING FOR THE OLD IS NOT!
THHHUMP!
UGGGGH!
YEEK!
YEEK!
YEEK!

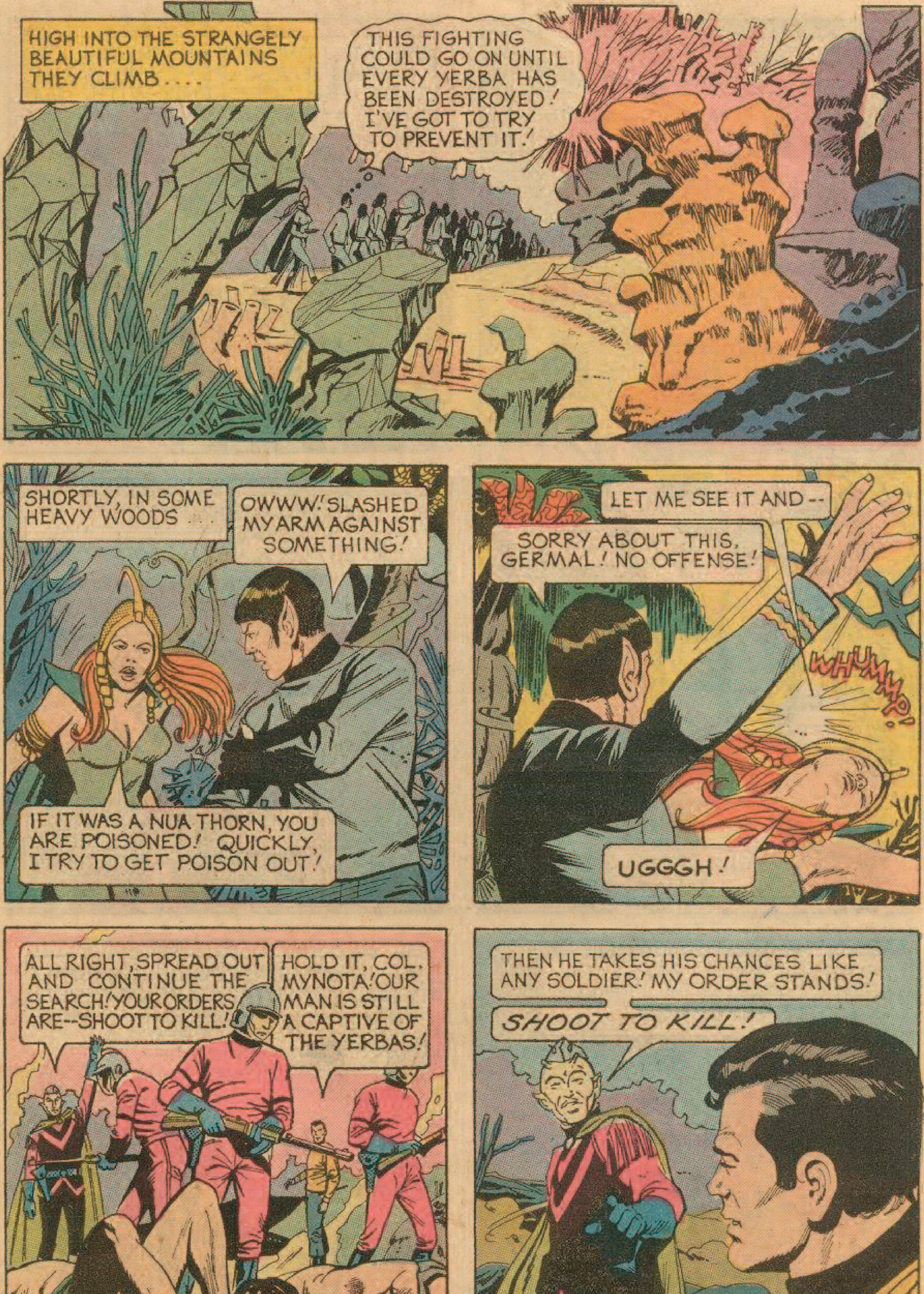
SHORTLY, AS SPOCK'S HEAD CLEARS..
OWWWW! ALL RIGHT, YOUR MESSAGE IS CLEAR! I'LL GO WITH YOU PEACEABLY!
EVEN INSECTS HAVE A LIMITED FORM OF COMMUNICATION! BUT THE YERBAS SIGN LANGUAGE IS COMPLICATED! MORE THAN JUST, "ME HUNGRY .... ME SLEEPY!"
SOON, DEEP IN THE MOUNTAINOUS COUNTRY THAT RISES FROM THE CITY'S LIMITS . . .
IT'S THEIR BASE! LOOKS LIKE A TRUE GUERILLA CAMP!
ALL RIGHT, ALL RIGHT! YOU WANT ME TO COME WITH YOU! I'M ABOUT TO MEET THE KING OF THE BEASTS! EHHH?


YOU MUST BE THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF! THAT STOLEN CAPE WOULD BE YOUR BADGE OF OFFICE!
TOO BAD YOU CANNOT SPEAK. IT WOULD BE FASCINATING TO KNOW YOUR THINKING PROCESS!
I SPEAK--STARSHIP MAN! GERMAL--CAN---SPEAK!
AT ALMOST THAT SAME MOMENT...
NOW WILL YOU HELP US, CAPTAIN? THE YERBAS HAVE PROBABLY EATEN THE FLESH OF MR. SPOCK BY NOW!
IT'S HARDER FOR ME TO STAY MY HAND, EMPEROR! BUT I AM STILL BOUND TO AWAIT ORDERS!
RADIO COMMAND MESSAGE! HQ SAYS LEND ALL ASSISTANCE TO PUTTING DOWN THE ANIMAL ATTACKS!
THEN, IT'S SETTLED! GOOD!
WHY DOESN'T THE EMPEROR'S SON LEAD THIS CAMPAIGN HIMSELF?
YOU DON'T KNOW? A YERBA PACK CAPTURED JIVI WHEN HE WAS ONLY TEN! A YOUNG YERBA SET HIM FREE! HE'S REFUSED TO FIGHT THEM SINCE!

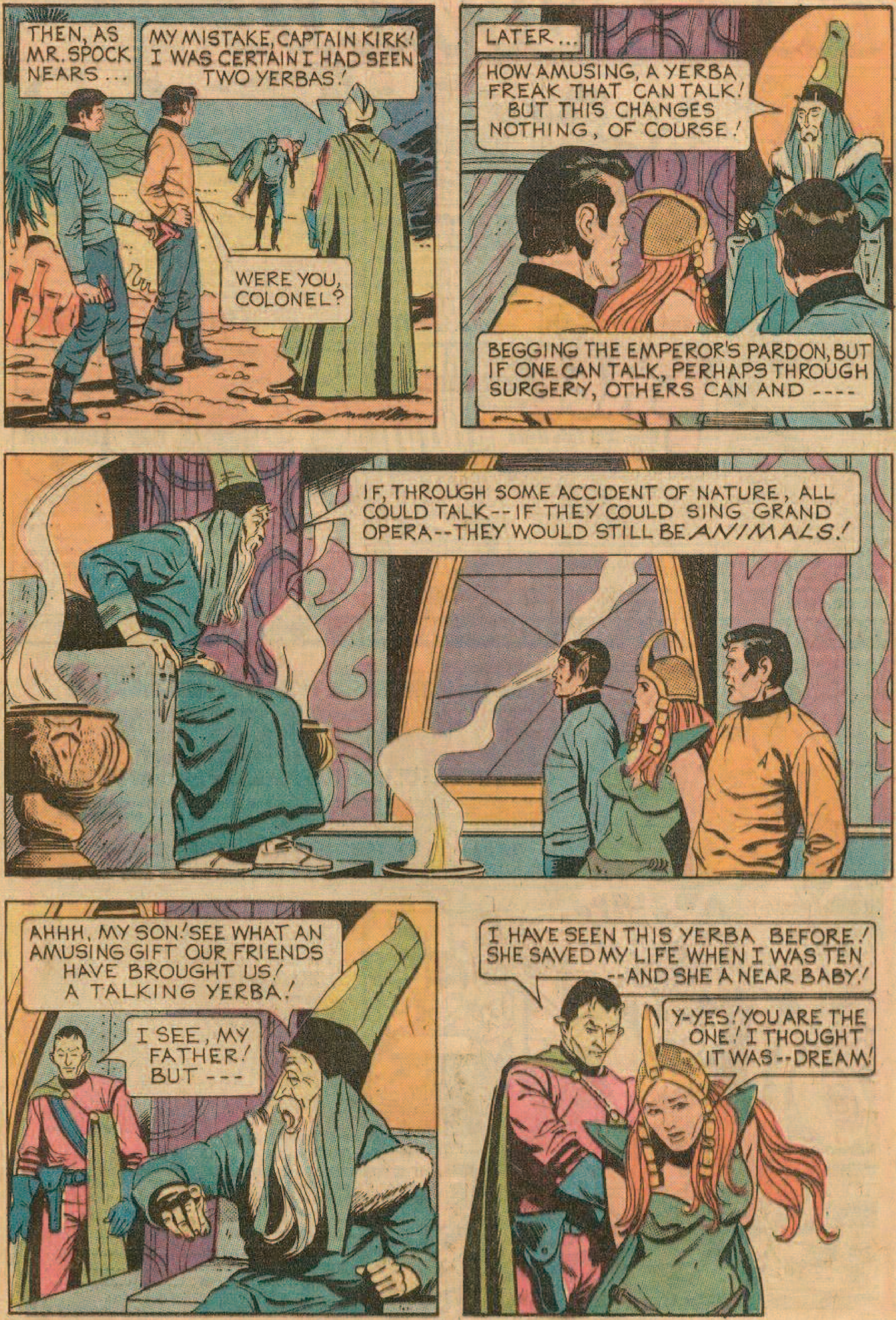
AND, IN THE YERBA CAMP...
YOUR MOTHER WAS A HOUSE BEAST--I MEAN A SERVANT! BEFORE YOU WERE BORN, SHE ESCAPED?
YES! SHE RAISE ME ALL ALONE IN CAVE! THEN SHE DIE! ME HIDE LIKE SHE TELL ME TO!
VERY LONELY! COME DOWN FROM CAVE SOME TIME --SLIP UP ON PEOPLE --- LISTEN TO TALK--
AND SOME FREAK OF NATURE GAVE YOU THE VOCAL POWERS OTHER YERBAS LACK! I SEE!
WHAT IS IT YERBAS WANT ----BESIDES KILLING THEIR MASTERS? EH, GERMAL?
NOT WANT TO KILL MASTERS! MANY YERBAS HATE KILLING! GERMAL HATES KILLING!
FREEDOM! IS RIGHT WORD--FREEDOM?
I BELIEVE IT IS EXACTLY THE WORD, GERMAL!
IF YOU COULD SPEAK TO THE EMPEROR YOURSELF--THE FIRST YERBA TO UTTER WORDS ---I THINK IT MIGHT CHANGE THINGS!
WOULD YOU COME WITH ME AND DO THAT?

SUDDENLY...
MR. SPOCK! IF YOU ARE AMONG THE YERBAS, BREAK FREE! WE MUST ATTACK THIS CAMP!
THROUGH SIGN LANGUAGE, GERMAL INSTANTLY TRANSLATES THE MESSAGE FOR THE OTHERS AND THEN...
YEEE!
THAT SIGN IS CLEAR! SHE'S TELLING THEM TO ATTACK THE SHIP!
WHY ARE YOU DOING THIS? YOU SAID YOU HATED KILLING!
I AM YERBA! I SPEAK --- BUT I AM STILL YERBA! I FIGHT FOR MY OWN! YOU DO SAME, NO?
MANNING THEIR FEW STOLEN WEAPONS, THE YERBAS ATTEMPT TO DRIVE OFF THE ROCKET PLANE...
CRRRZZZZ!
CRRRACK!
AND THEN -- A SINGLE REPLY!
KWOOOOOOOM!

THERE WAS NO CALL FOR THAT, COLONEL MYNOTA! THE SMALL PHASERS THEY HAVE CAN'T HARM US! SPOCK NEVER HAD A CHANCE TO ESCAPE!
I HAVE MORE THAN THAT CONCERN, CAPTAIN! MY FIRST DUTY IS TO WIPE OUT ALL YERBA RESISTANCE!
IF THIS WERE YOUR OWN PLANET--IF YOUR MOTHER AND YOUR DAUGHTERS WERE MENACED BY THE WILD YERBAS--YOU WOULD SPEAK DIFFERENTLY!
NOW WE MOP UP THE YERBA CAMP!
MANY DEAD--WOUNDED! WE MUST MARCH INTO MOUNTAINS! FIND SAFER PLACE!
NO! WAIT! I'LL TALK TO THEM WHEN THEY COME! YOU WILL ALL BE SAFE, I GUARANTEE IT!
NO! YOU GOOD MAN--BUT YOU STILL MAN AND YERBAS---ANIMALS!
YOU BETRAY US! WE TAKE YOU--TRADE YOU FOR YERBA PRISONERS! MARCH!
WITH THE RISING SUN, A STRANGE SOUND ALSO RISES....
YEEE!
YAWW
YA-YA-YA-YA!
YEEEE!
IT SOUNDS ALMOST LIKE A SONG! THAT'S WHAT IT MUST BE! A FREEDOM SONG! FASCINATING!

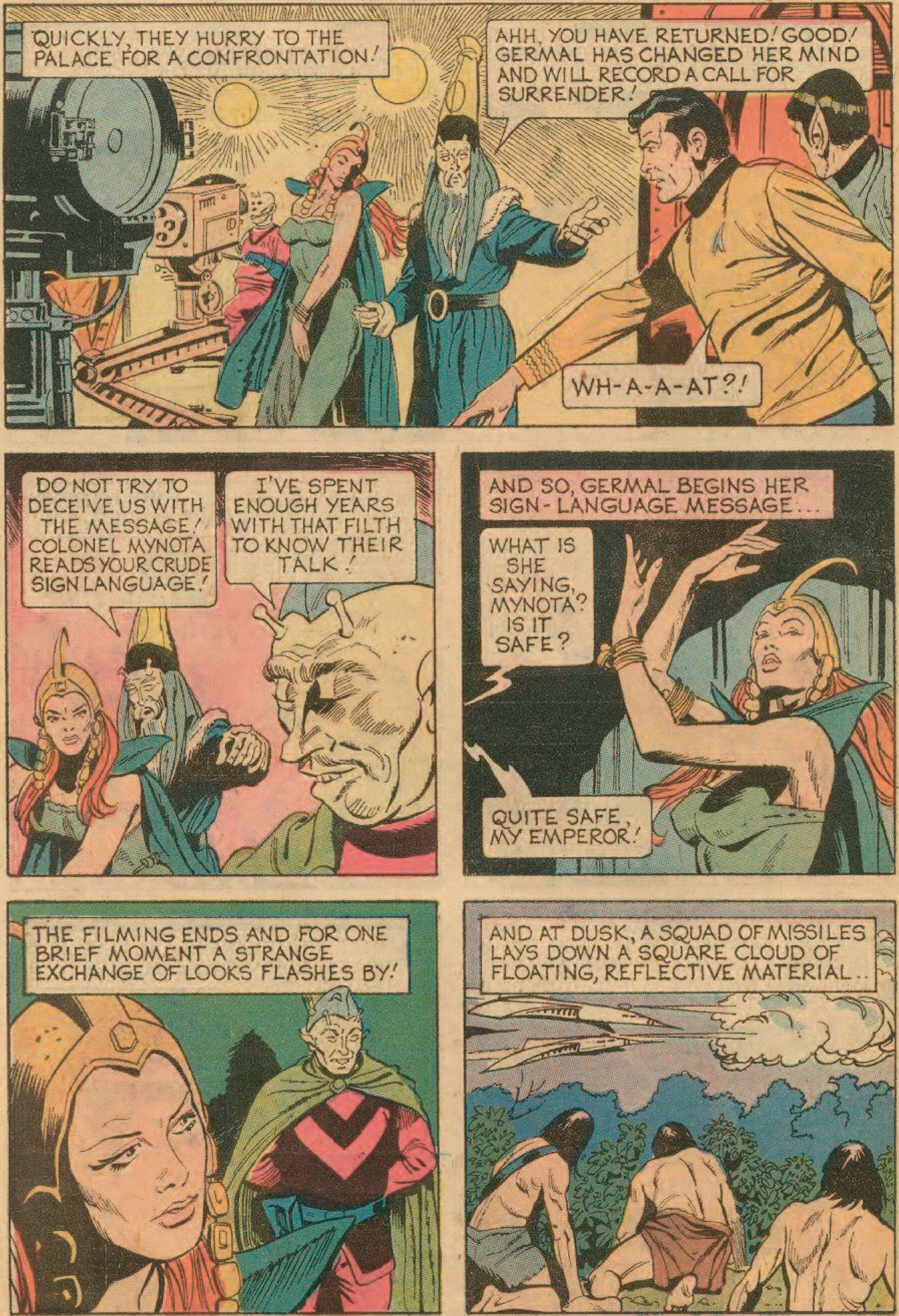

HIGH INTO THE STRANGELY BEAUTIFUL MOUNTAINS THEY CLIMB....
THIS FIGHTING COULD GO ON UNTIL EVERY YERBA HAS BEEN DESTROYED! I'VE GOT TO TRY TO PREVENT IT!
SHORTLY, IN SOME HEAVY WOODS...
OWWW! SLASHED MY ARM AGAINST SOMETHING!
IF IT WAS A NUA THORN, YOU ARE POISONED! QUICKLY, I TRY TO GET POISON OUT!
LET ME SEE IT AND--
SORRY ABOUT THIS, GERMAL! NO OFFENSE!
WHUMMP!
UGGGH!
ALL RIGHT, SPREAD OUT AND CONTINUE THE SEARCH! YOUR ORDERS ARE--SHOOT TO KILL!
HOLD IT, COL. MYNOTA! OUR MAN IS STILL A CAPTIVE OF THE YERBAS!
THEN HE TAKES HIS CHANCES LIKE ANY SOLDIER! MY ORDER STANDS!
SHOOT TO KILL!

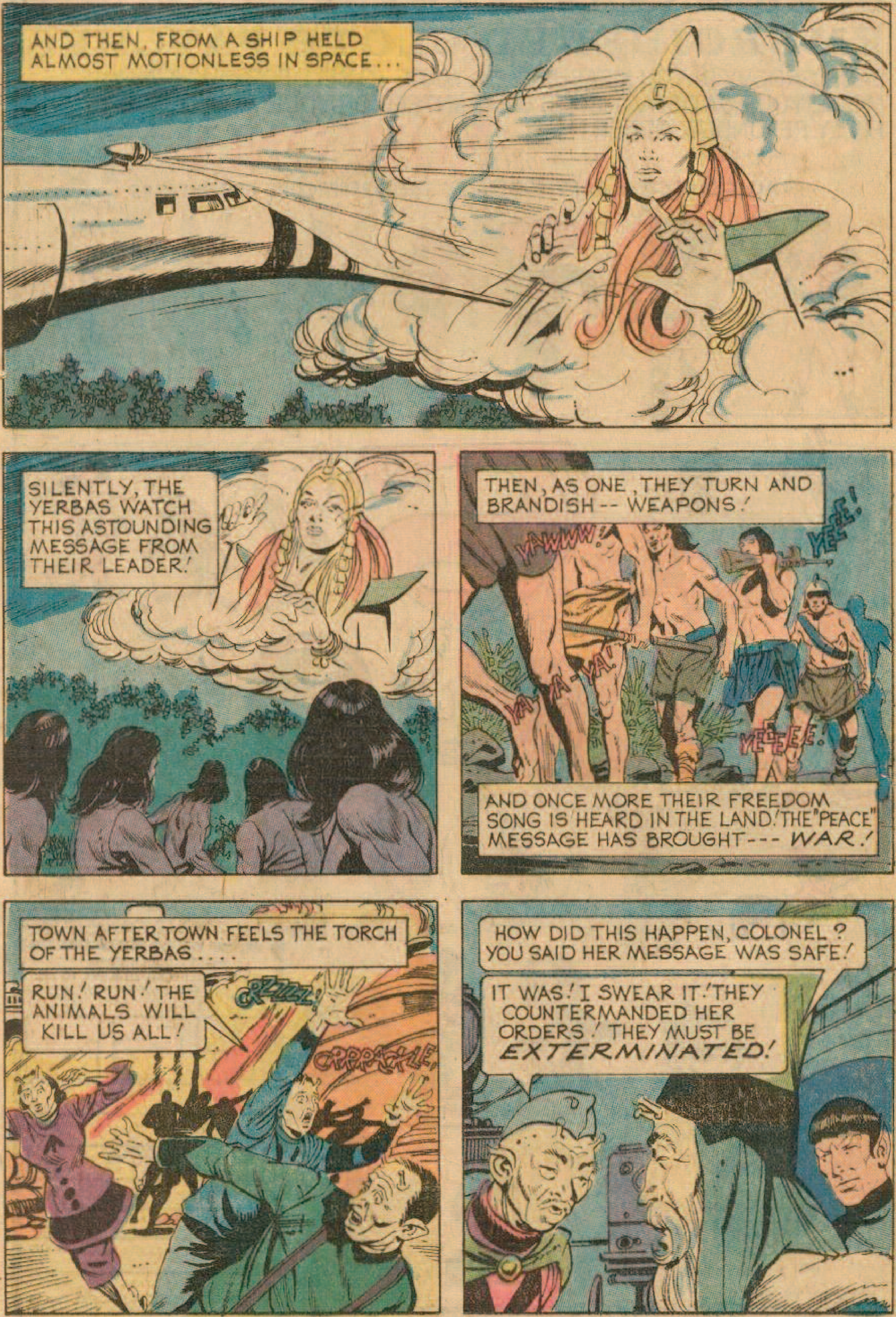
SHORTLY...
SOMETHING MOVING UP THAT WAY, SIR!
YES! YES! I SEE IT-- BUT NOT CLEARLY ENOUGH!
THE MAGNI-SCOPE! QUICKLY!
YES! YES! TWO OF THE YERBAS TRYING TO ESCAPE! I SEE THEM WELL! OPEN FIRE WITH A- GRENADES!
JUST A SECOND, COLONEL!
I'D LIKE A LOOK THROUGH THERE, IF YOU DON'T MIND! PROFESSIONAL COURTESY--FOR A FELLOW OFFICER!
WHOOOSH
THAT'S NOT TWO YERBAS! IT'S SPOCK CARRYING A FEMALE YERBA THIS WAY!
WITHDRAW YOUR FIRE, COLONEL!
YOU HEARD HIM, COLONEL MYNOTA! YOU HAVE TILL THE COUNT OF THREE! ONE---
THE ORDER TO FIRE IS WITHDRAWN!


THEN, AS MR. SPOCK NEARS ...
MY MISTAKE, CAPTAIN KIRK! I WAS CERTAIN I HAD SEEN TWO YERBAS!
WERE YOU, COLONEL?
LATER ...
HOW AMUSING, A YERBA FREAK THAT CAN TALK! BUT THIS CHANGES NOTHING, OF COURSE!
BEGGING THE EMPEROR'S PARDON, BUT IF ONE CAN TALK, PERHAPS THROUGH SURGERY, OTHERS CAN AND ----
IF, THROUGH SOME ACCIDENT OF NATURE, ALL COULD TALK--IF THEY COULD SING GRAND OPERA--THEY WOULD STILL BE ANIMALS!
AHHH, MY SON! SEE WHAT AN AMUSING GIFT OUR FRIENDS HAVE BROUGHT US! A TALKING YERBA!
I SEE, MY FATHER! BUT ---
I HAVE SEEN THIS YERBA BEFORE! SHE SAVED MY LIFE WHEN I WAS TEN --AND SHE A NEAR BABY!
Y-YES! YOU ARE THE ONE! I THOUGHT IT WAS--DREAM!

STAR TREK PART 2
THE ANIMAL PEOPLE
CAPTAIN'S LOG: STARDATE 19:26.12. REPLYING TO A CALL FOR HELP FROM THE PLANET HERCULA, WE OFFERED TO ASSIST IN PUTTING DOWN WILD ANIMAL ATTACKS! BUT THE CONDITIONS SUDDENLY SEEM TO BE STRANGELY SHIFTING!
GERMAL, YOU WILL HELP US TO AVOID BLOODSHED ON BOTH SIDES BY RECORDING A MESSAGE IN YOUR SIGN LANGUAGE ---ORDERING THE YERBAS TO SURRENDER!
I WILL NOT! GERMAL WILL *DIE* FIRST!
GUARD! THROW HER IN A CELL!
NO! WAIT! RELEASE HER IN MY CUSTODY, FATHER! I WILL BE RESPONSIBLE!
NO! THERE IS TOO MUCH RISK IN THAT!
AS GERMAL IS LED AWAY, A MEANINGFUL GLANCE PASSES BETWEEN TWO SETS OF EYES!
THAT'S THE LOOK OF A MAN IN LOVE!

LATER, AS THE STARSHIP OFFICERS WALK THROUGH A PUBLIC PARK . . .
AS YOU POINTED OUT, CAPTAIN, SPEECH IS ONLY A TOOL OF INTELLIGENCE! GERMAL'S SPEECH COULD BE ACCIDENTAL --BUT NOT HER MIND!
WHISPER! EVEN HERE WE MIGHT BE OVERHEARD!
WE SAW THAT IN TWO DAYS! WHY HAVEN'T THEIR SCIENTISTS?
SCIENCE IS ONLY AS GOVERNMENT ALLOWS!
HEY! WHAT'S HAPPENING HERE?
ALL YERBAS MUST HAVE THROAT SURGERY IN THE FIRST TEN DAYS OF LIFE, SIR! OTHERWISE, THEY WOULD STRANGLE! VERY INFERIOR ANIMALS!
SO IT SEEMS, SOLDIER!
SUPPOSE GERMAL'S MOTHER REMOVED THE CHILD BEFORE THE OPERATION--?
--THEN THE OPERATION MIGHT BE TO PREVENT SPEECH!
PRECISELY!
GENTLEMEN! THERE IS A TERRIBLE FORM OF GENOCIDE HERE! AN ENTIRE PEOPLE ROBBED OF THE MEMORY OF IT'S OWN DEVELOPMENT! MADE TO BELIEVE THEY ARE ANIMALS!

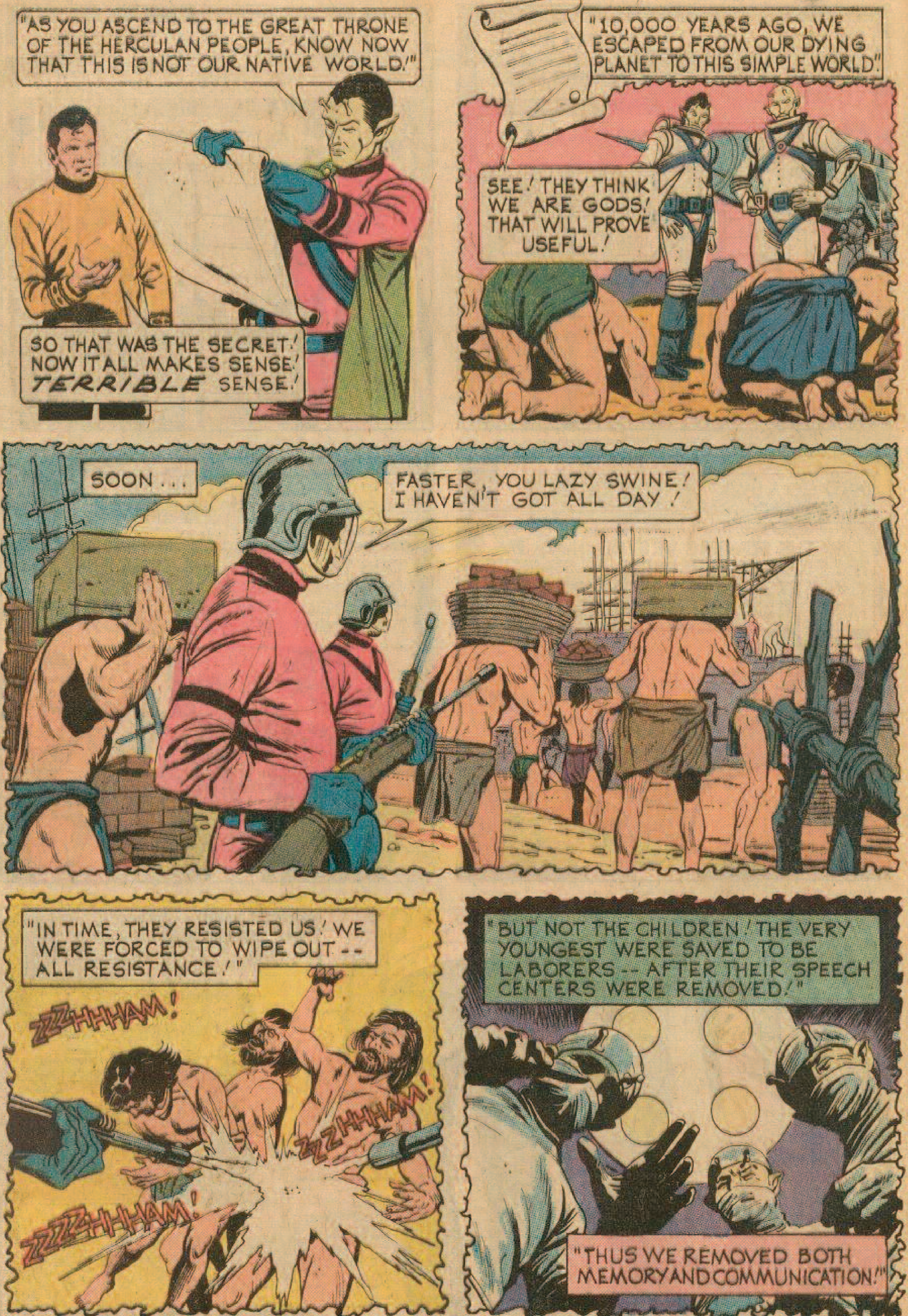

QUICKLY, THEY HURRY TO THE PALACE FOR A CONFRONTATION!
AHH, YOU HAVE RETURNED! GOOD! GERMAL HAS CHANGED HER MIND AND WILL RECORD A CALL FOR SURRENDER!
WH-A-A-AT?!
DO NOT TRY TO DECEIVE US WITH THE MESSAGE! COLONEL MYNOTA READS YOUR CRUDE SIGN LANGUAGE!
I'VE SPENT ENOUGH YEARS WITH THAT FILTH TO KNOW THEIR TALK!
AND SO, GERMAL BEGINS HER SIGN-LANGUAGE MESSAGE...
WHAT IS SHE SAYING, MYNOTA? IS IT SAFE?
QUITE SAFE, MY EMPEROR!
THE FILMING ENDS AND FOR ONE BRIEF MOMENT A STRANGE EXCHANGE OF LOOKS FLASHES BY!
AND AT DUSK, A SQUAD OF MISSILES LAYS DOWN A SQUARE CLOUD OF FLOATING, REFLECTIVE MATERIAL..


AND THEN, FROM A SHIP HELD ALMOST MOTIONLESS IN SPACE...
SILENTLY, THE YERBAS WATCH THIS ASTOUNDING MESSAGE FROM THEIR LEADER!
THEN, AS ONE, THEY TURN AND BRANDISH -- WEAPONS!
AND ONCE MORE THEIR FREEDOM SONG IS HEARD IN THE LAND! THE "PEACE" MESSAGE HAS BROUGHT--- WAR!
TOWN AFTER TOWN FEELS THE TORCH OF THE YERBAS....
RUN! RUN! THE ANIMALS WILL KILL US ALL!
HOW DID THIS HAPPEN, COLONEL? YOU SAID HER MESSAGE WAS SAFE!
IT WAS! I SWEAR IT! THEY COUNTERMANDED HER ORDERS! THEY MUST BE EXTERMINATED!

WAS HER MESSAGE SAFE ? OR DID YOU PURPOSELY LET A CALL TO ARMS GO THROUGH SO YOU COULD KILL OFF THE YERBAS?
HOW DARE YOU?! I WOULD NOT RISK MY PEOPLE SO INSANELY!
YOU WERE RIGHT FROM THE BEGINNING COLONEL! WE HAVE BEEN TOO SOFT! MY ORDERS ARE --WIPE OUT THE YERBAS! ALL!
SUDDENLY, A SILENT FIGURE COMES TO LIFE!
IN THAT EVENT, FATHER, YOU HAVE MY RESIGNATION! I WILL NOT ASSIST IN THIS SLAUGHTER EVEN BY SILENCE!
THAT IS A GRAVE MISTAKE, MY SON!
YOU ARE THE TRUE INHERITOR OF ALL MY POWERS! ON MY DEATH, YOU WILL BE EMPEROR, HIGH JUSTICE AND KEEPER OF THE TRUTH!
YOUR TRUTH IS BUILT ON A FOUNDATION OF LIES--AND SLAVERY!
WE AGREE WITH YOUR SON, EMPEROR LIDORO! OUR SUPPORT IS WITHDRAWN!
YOU ARE DISOBEYING AN ORDER OF YOUR OWN HEADQUARTERS! I'LL SEE YOU'RE ALL COURT-MARTIALED FOR THIS!

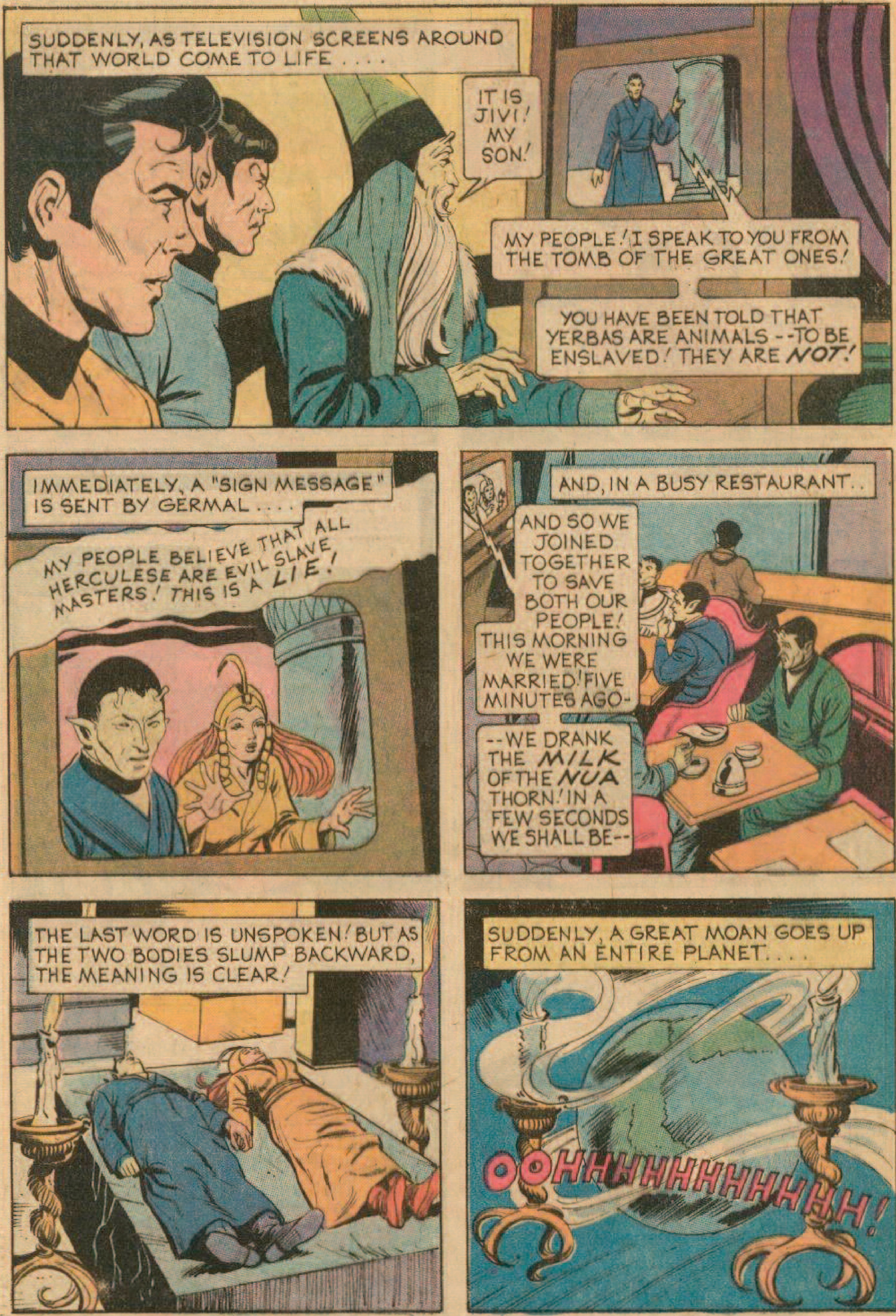
THIS IS A MISTAKE, FATHER! THE STARSHIP MEN SPEAK THE TRUTH!
ENOUGH! YOU ARE ALL SPEAKING TREASON! GUARD! IMPRISON THEM ---MY SON INCLUDED!
SHORTLY, BENEATH THE PALACE ...
MYNOTA--THE BLOOD-LOVER --WILL MAKE POLICY FOR MY FATHER NOW! YOUR PEOPLE WILL BE WIPED OUT!
AND YOURS LOST MUCH BLOOD TOO! MY PEOPLE --WE STEAL MANY ATOM WEAPONS FROM YOUR ARMY! WE HAVE NO ROCKETS YET, BUT--
"--WE ATTACH ATOM WEAPONS TO ARROWS -- "
THERE'S A YERBA CAMP AHEAD! AND SOME FOOL WHO WANTS TO STOP OUR FIFTY-TON TANK WITH A BOW AND ARROW! HA-HA!
KAWAWAVOOOOM!

THERE IS A WAY TO AVOID THIS BLOODSHED! IF THE EMPEROR'S SON -- AND GERMAL, QUEEN OF THE YERBAS, WERE TO MARRY --
WH-A-A-A-T?
I'VE SEEN THE LOOKS THAT PASS BETWEEN YOU! THIS WOULD BE NO SACRIFICE FOR EITHER OF YOU, RIGHT?
QUITE RIGHT!
AND SO A SWIFT AND STRANGE CEREMONY IS PERFORMED . . .
-- BY THE POWERS VESTED IN ME BY THE FEDERATED PLANETS AS STARSHIP CHIEF EXECUTIVE, I PRONOUNCE YOU HUSBAND AND WIFE!
AT AN APPEAL FROM HIS SON, THE EMPEROR HAS THE PRISONERS BROUGHT FORTH . . . .
THIS THING YOU HAVE DONE FORCES MY HAND!... GERMAL YOU REMAIN HERE! YOU OTHERS, FOLLOW ME INTO THE *ROOM OF THE SACRED TRUTH!*
THE SCROLL OF TRUTH, WHICH NO EMPEROR HAS EVER HANDED ON BEFORE HIS DEATH! BUT YOU FORCE ME TO MAKE IT BE KNOWN NOW, MY SON!

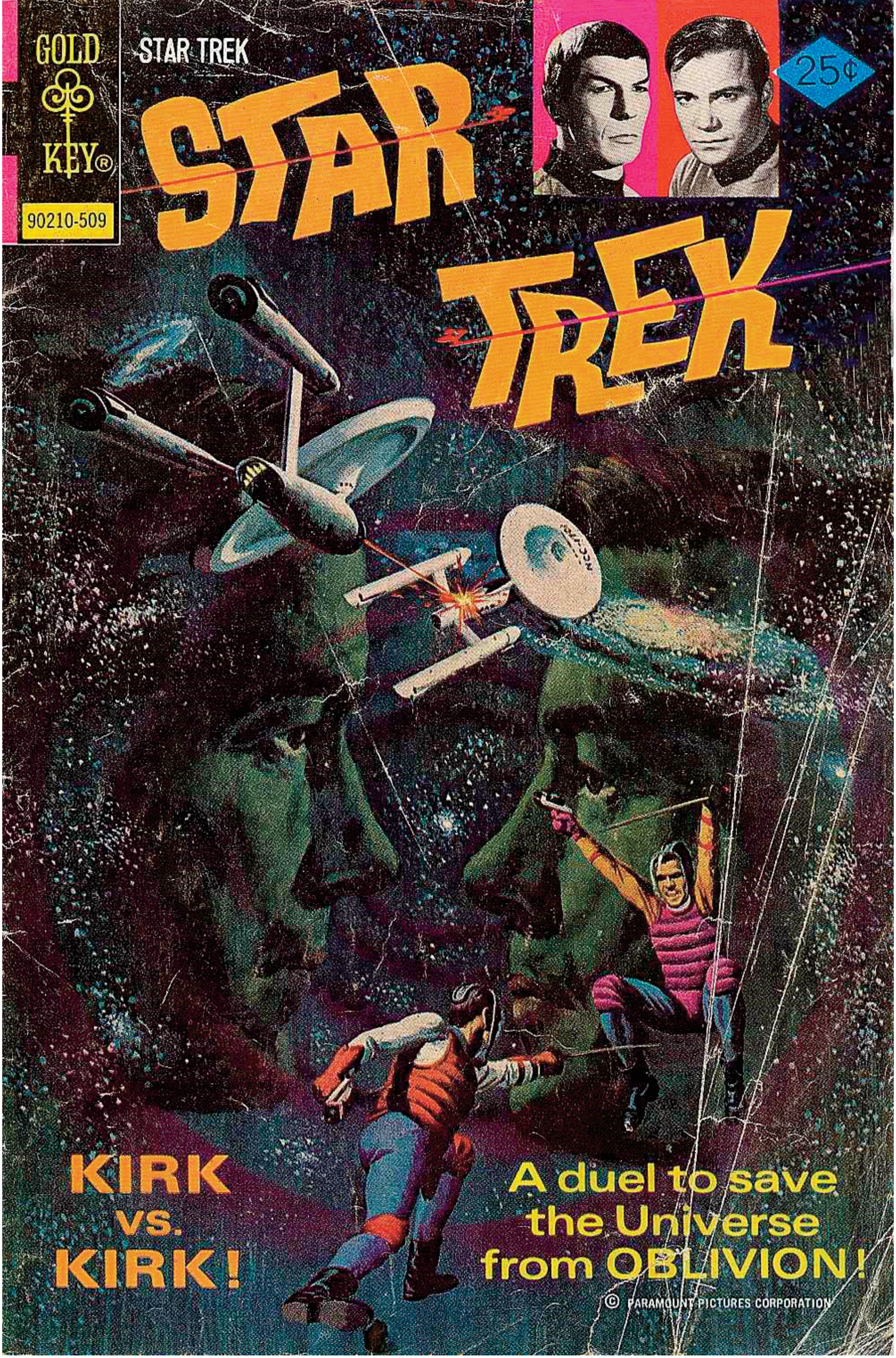

"AS YOU ASCEND TO THE GREAT THRONE OF THE HERCULAN PEOPLE, KNOW NOW THAT THIS IS NOT OUR NATIVE WORLD!"
SO THAT WAS THE SECRET! NOW IT ALL MAKES SENSE! TERRIBLE SENSE!
"10,000 YEARS AGO, WE ESCAPED FROM OUR DYING PLANET TO THIS SIMPLE WORLD!"
SEE! THEY THINK WE ARE GODS! THAT WILL PROVE USEFUL!
SOON ...
FASTER, YOU LAZY SWINE! I HAVEN'T GOT ALL DAY!
"IN TIME, THEY RESISTED US! WE WERE FORCED TO WIPE OUT -- ALL RESISTANCE!"
ZZZHHHAM!
ZZZHHHAM!
ZZZZHHHAM!
"BUT NOT THE CHILDREN! THE VERY YOUNGEST WERE SAVED TO BE LABORERS -- AFTER THEIR SPEECH CENTERS WERE REMOVED!"
"THUS WE REMOVED BOTH MEMORY AND COMMUNICATION!"

MILLIONS WERE KILLED IN ALL! THE GUILT WAS SO GREAT, THAT WE HAD TO WIPE IT OUT --
--BY MAKING THE NEWBORN YERBAS BELIEVE THAT THEY WERE NO MORE THAN ANIMALS!
SUDDENLY, AS ELECTRONIC ENERGY SEARS THROUGH THE GREAT DOOR...
FOR DIVULGING THE SACRED SCROLLS TO UNWORTHY ONES, I PLACE YOU UNDER ARREST "EMPEROR"!
SOMEHOW I THOUGHT YOU WOULD BE HEARD FROM, COLONEL!
I HAVE ORDERED MY MEN TO WIPE OUT ALL REMAINING YERBAS -- YOUNG AND OLD!
I WARN YOU, COLONEL --MY PEOPLE HAVE STOLEN MANY ATOMIC WEAPONS! YOUR CITIES WILL DIE!
LIAR!!!
BUT EVEN AS THEY TALK --
KWOOOOOM!
-A YERBA GUERILLA CAMP IS BLOWN UP!
AND URBAN GUERILLA WARFARE COMES TO A GREAT DEPARTMENT STORE!
BAWHOOOOOOOOM!

TRAPPED YERBA TRIBESMEN ARE BURNED FROM ON HIGH . . .
ZEEZZZZZZ!
ZEEEEZZZZ
AND A HOUSE OF WORSHIP IS VAPORIZED BY GUERILLAS . . .
FWOOOOOOOOMM!
THE SCROLLS ARE TOO DANGEROUS TO EXIST! I MUST BURN THEM FOR THE GOOD OF OUR PEOPLE!
NO YOU DON'T, COLONEL! TOO MUCH HAS BEEN DONE "FOR THE GOOD OF THE PEOPLE" ALREADY!
WHOMMMP!
HALT! YOU HAVE STRUCK THE COLONEL!
WELL, LET'S MAKE IT ALL EVEN! I'LL STRIKE --- YOU!
WHOPPPP!
GERMAL! JIVI! WHERE DID THEY GO?
VANISHED! I--I DON'T LIKE THIS, CAPTAIN!


SUDDENLY, AS TELEVISION SCREENS AROUND THAT WORLD COME TO LIFE . . . .
IT IS JIVI! MY SON!
MY PEOPLE! I SPEAK TO YOU FROM THE TOMB OF THE GREAT ONES!
YOU HAVE BEEN TOLD THAT YERBAS ARE ANIMALS --TO BE ENSLAVED! THEY ARE NOT!
IMMEDIATELY, A "SIGN MESSAGE" IS SENT BY GERMAL . . . .
MY PEOPLE BELIEVE THAT ALL HERCULESE ARE EVIL SLAVE MASTERS! THIS IS A LIE!
AND, IN A BUSY RESTAURANT . .
AND SO WE JOINED TOGETHER TO SAVE BOTH OUR PEOPLE! THIS MORNING WE WERE MARRIED! FIVE MINUTES AGO-
--WE DRANK THE MILK OF THE NUA THORN! IN A FEW SECONDS WE SHALL BE--
THE LAST WORD IS UNSPOKEN! BUT AS THE TWO BODIES SLUMP BACKWARD, THE MEANING IS CLEAR!
SUDDENLY, A GREAT MOAN GOES UP FROM AN ENTIRE PLANET . . . .
OOHHHHHHHHHHHHH!

MEN EVERYWHERE, WHETHER YERBAS OR HERCULESE, SMASH THEIR WEAPONS-
KWAMM!
BWANNNNNG!
-- AND EMBRACE!
FRIEND! FRIEND! YOU UNDERSTAND? -- FRIEND? YES, YOU UNDERSTAND!
AND SOON, AS THE GREAT EVENTS FALL INTO PLACE . . .
I'M GLAD WE STAYED TO SEE THESE GREAT THINGS! YOU ARE GOING TO SHARE YOUR THRONE WITH A LEADER ELECTED BY THE YERBAS?
YES! THIS TWIN TRAGEDY HAS TAUGHT US MUCH! YOU MUST SEE TWO THINGS BEFORE YOU GO!
THIS STATUE WILL STAND ON THE HIGHEST POINT OF OUR PLANET -- TO REMIND US OF THE COST OF PEACE!
VERY IMPRESSIVE! AND THE OTHER THING YOU WANTED TO SHOW US?
A NEWBORN YERBA CHILD -- WITH ITS SPEECH CENTER INTACT! THE OPERATION HAS BEEN OUTLAWED -- FOREVER!
ATTA'WAY, BOY! KEEP ON YELLING AS LOUD AS YOU CAN! THEY PAID A HEAVY PRICE FOR YOUR VOICE!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A duel to save the Universe from OBLIVION!
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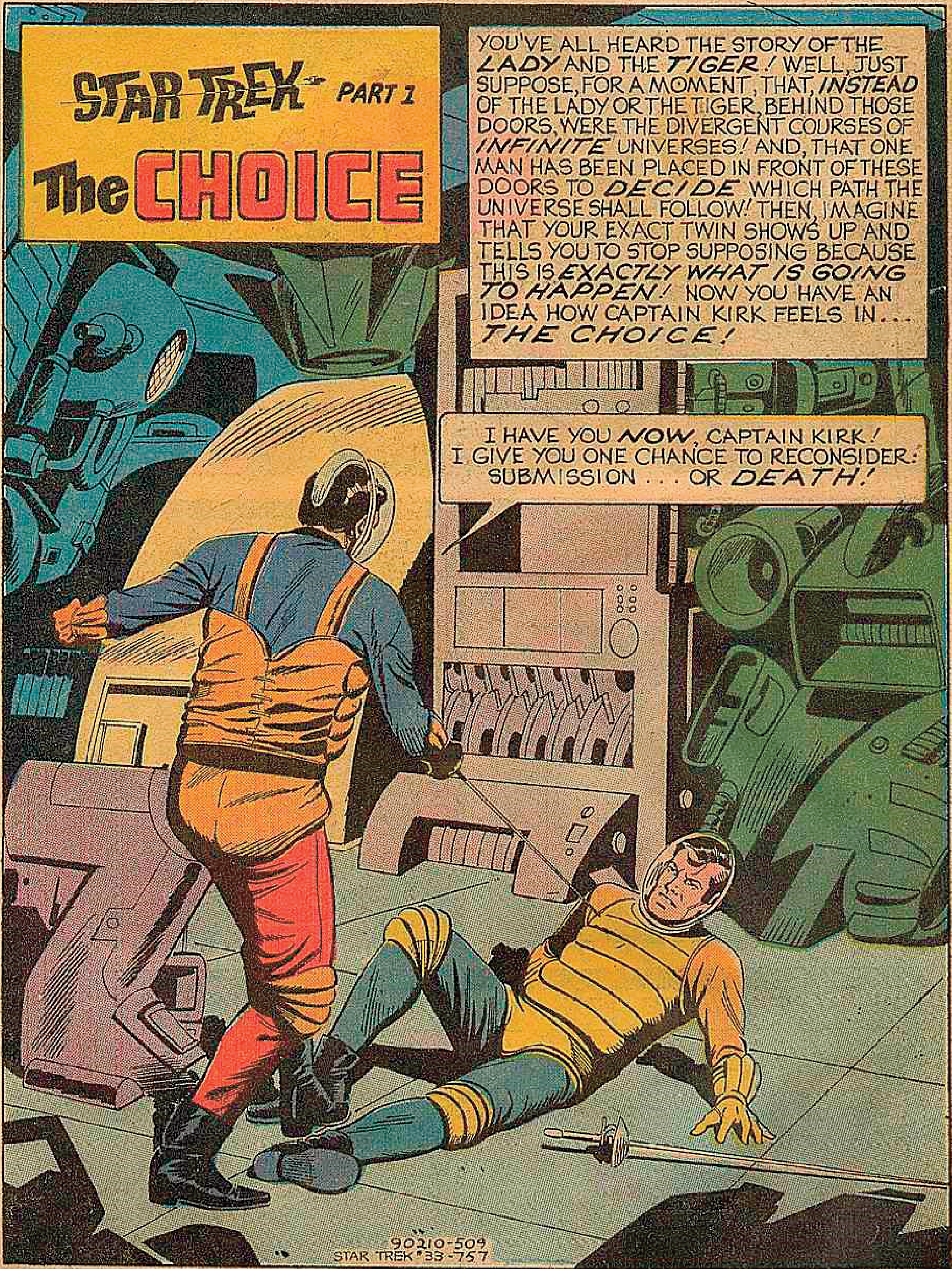

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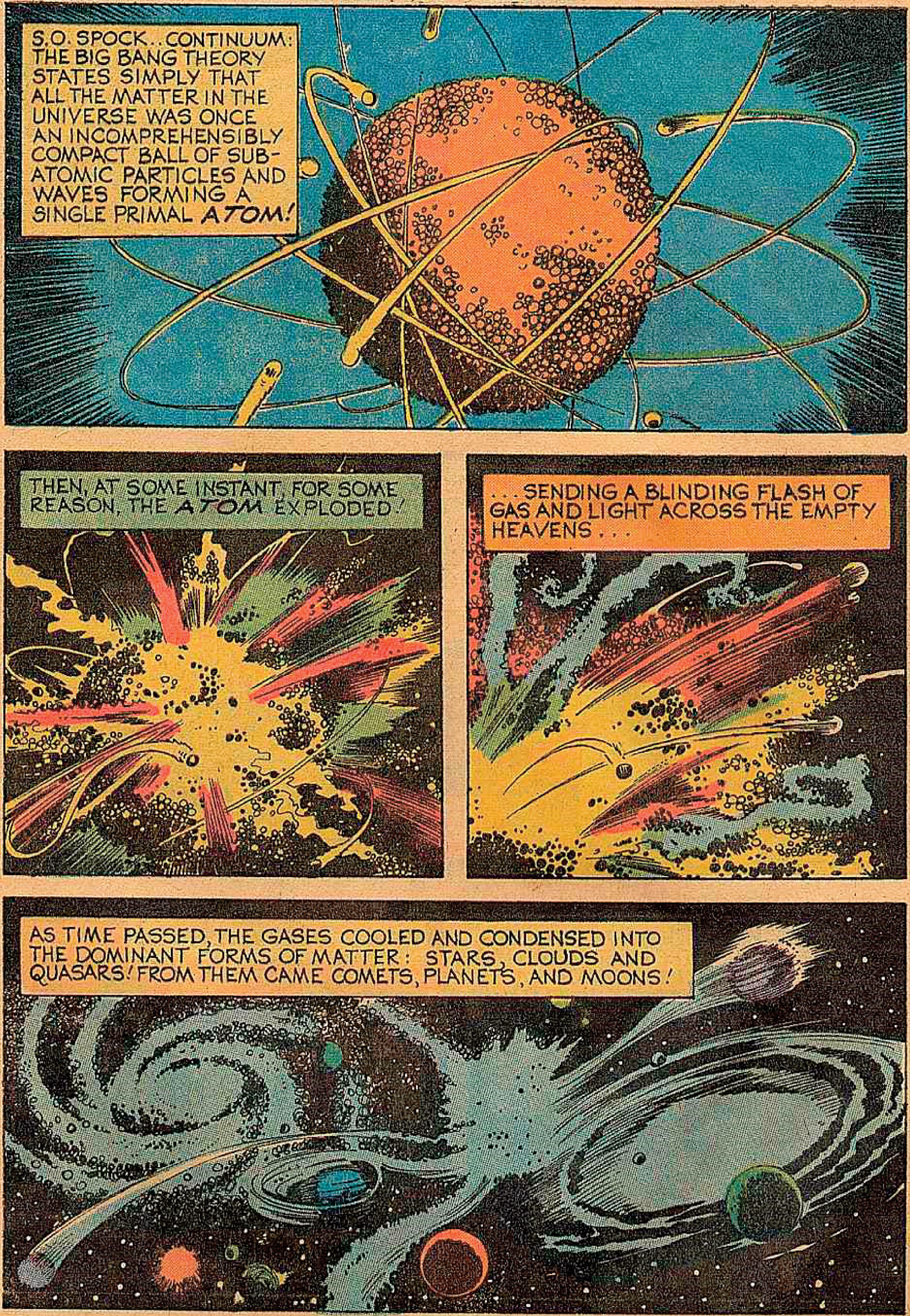
CAPTAIN'S LOG, STAR DATE... 17:01.02. AFTER A RATHER HECTIC TWO-WEEK LEAVE ON THE RESORT PLANET LADO, THE ENTERPRISE CREW WAS IMMEDIATELY ASSIGNED A NEW HIGH-PRIORITY DESTINATION!
OUR ORDERS ARE TO PROCEED TO THE VAST AND LITTLE KNOWN QUADRANT MARK I, IN THE CAPACITY OF SCIENTIFIC EXPEDITION!
RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN PARA-ASTRONOMY HAVE PINPOINTED A HOTBED OF TELLTALE RADIATION THERE! SCIENTISTS NOW BELIEVE THIS AREA TO BE THE SITE OF THE BIG BANG! OR, IN OTHER WORDS..
...THE BIRTHPLACE OF THE UNIVERSE!
NCC-1701


S.O. SPOCK..CONTINUUM: THE BIG BANG THEORY STATES SIMPLY THAT ALL THE MATTER IN THE UNIVERSE WAS ONCE AN INCOMPREHENSIBLY COMPACT BALL OF SUB-ATOMIC PARTICLES AND WAVES FORMING A SINGLE PRIMAL ATOM!
THEN, AT SOME INSTANT, FOR SOME REASON, THE ATOM EXPLODED!
...SENDING A BLINDING FLASH OF GAS AND LIGHT ACROSS THE EMPTY HEAVENS...
AS TIME PASSED, THE GASES COOLED AND CONDENSED INTO THE DOMINANT FORMS OF MATTER: STARS, CLOUDS AND QUASARS! FROM THEM CAME COMETS, PLANETS, AND MOONS!

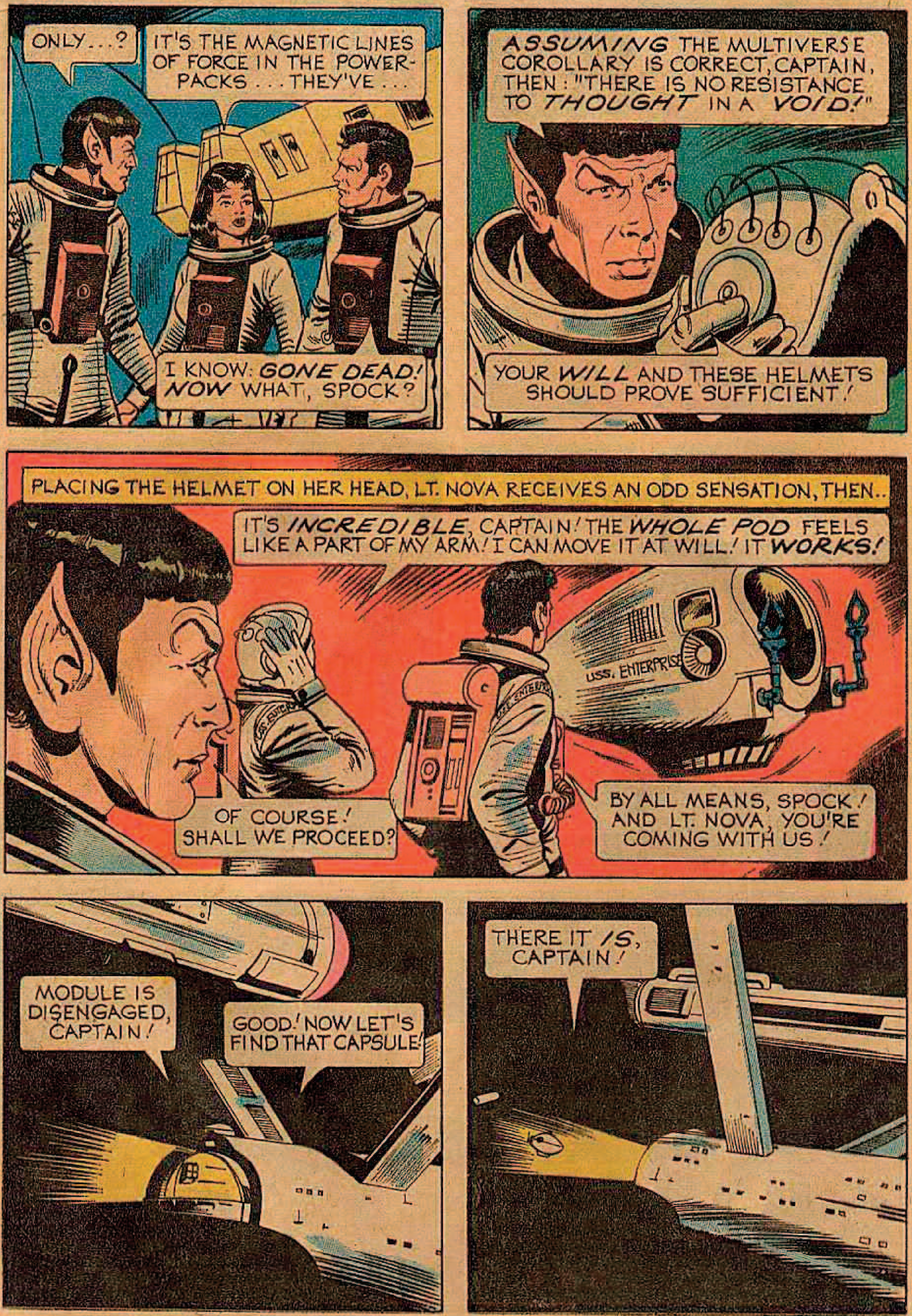
WITHIN 20 BILLION YEARS OR SO, THE BLAST WILL EXPEND ITSELF! THE UNIVERSE WILL BEGIN TO COLLAPSE!
THEN, THE PROCESS WILL REVERSE ITSELF! THE UNIVERSE WILL ONCE AGAIN SHRINK TO THE ORIGINAL ATOM AND EVENTUALLY EXPLODE AGAIN!
THANK YOU, MR. SPOCK! A LITTLE BACKGROUND ON OUR OBJECTIVE! AS YOU KNOW, OUR MISSION IS TO GET AS NEAR AS POSSIBLE TO THE ORIGIN OF THE BLAST AND OBSERVE ANY UNUSUAL PHENOMENA!
THIS MAY WELL BE THE MOST IMPORTANT MISSION YOU EVER SERVE ON! WE MAY SOLVE SOME OF THE BASIC RIDDLES OF EXISTENCE WITH OUR FINDINGS! ANY QUESTIONS?
WELL I HAVE A QUESTION:

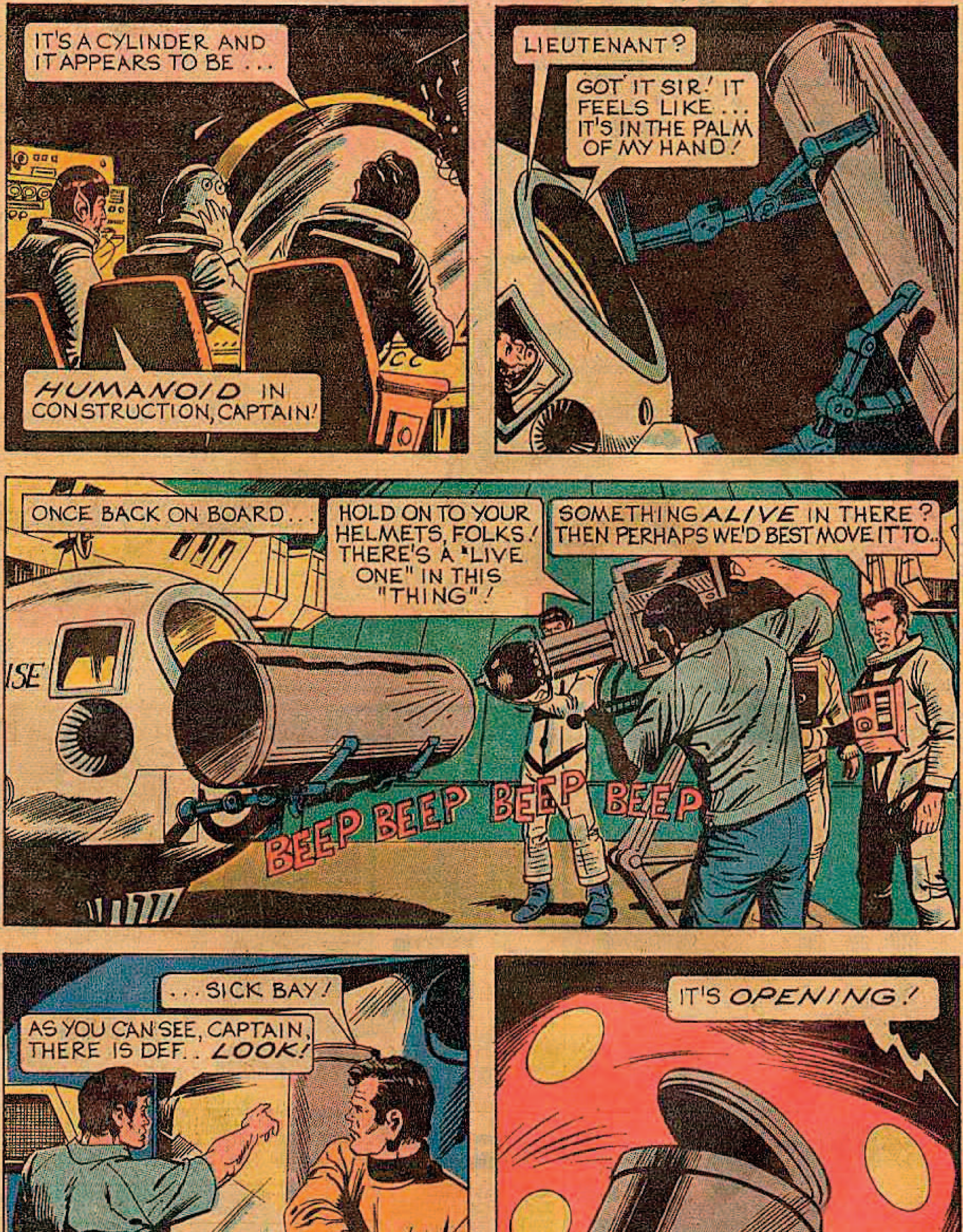
MR. SPOCK, DO YOU ANTICIPATE ANY DIFFICULTIES IN CROSSING THROUGH SPACE THAT HAS NOT CHANGED SINCE THE DAWN OF TIME?
INDEED, CAPTAIN! WE ARE BOUND TO ENCOUNTER SOME PRIMITIVE STATES OF MATTER, WHOSE EFFECT SHOULD PROVE HIGHLY UNPRE..
UUURRRUUURRR
CAPTAIN KIRK! REPORT TO BRIDGE IMMEDIATELY! REPEAT: CAPTAIN KIRK TO BRIDGE IMMEDIATELY!
AYE, CAP'N! WE'RE MAKING LIKE HARES, MON!
TO STATIONS, EVERYONE! THIS IS A RED ALERT! LET'S GO!
WARNING
UUURRRUUURRRUUURRRUUU
MOMENTS LATER, ON THE BRIDGE...
SULU, WHAT'S THIS ALL ABOUT? WE UNDER ATTACK?
NOTHING LIKE THAT, SIR! IT'S AN AUTOMATIC RESPONSE FROM THE SHIP'S COMPUTER, SIR..
...IT SOUNDED WHEN ALL THE SCANNERS WENT DEAD!
LT. UHURA???

DITTO ON SENSORS, CAPTAIN!
MR. CHEKHOV: SCREEN ON FULL SWEEP, PLEASE!
IT'S NO USE . . .
I CAN'T RAISE A THING, CAPTAIN!
HANG ON, MR. CHEKHOV. .
MR. SPOCK, ASSESS THE SITUATION!
I AM WORKING ON IT, CAPTAIN, BUT I NEED MORE DATA IMPUT!
VERY WELL, MR. SPOCK . .
SULU, HOW DID THIS HAPPEN?
WE WERE APPROACHING THE SIGHT OF THE BLAST ACCORDING TO PRE-FLIGHT PLANS, CAPTAIN, WHEN ALL OF A SUDDEN. . WE. . WE. .

IT WAS LIKE WE RAN OUT OF SPACE, CAPTAIN! LIKE WE CAME TO THE EDGE OF THE BUBBLE... AND POPPED IT!
CAPTAIN! CAPTAIN! ARE YA THERE MON?
AHOY, SCOTTY, WHAT IS IT?
IT'S THE DILITHIUM CRYSTALS, CAP'N! THEY'VE GONE COLD AND I CAN'T, FOR THE BONNIE LIFE OF ME, FIGURE OUT WHY!
THE NATURAL LAWS OF SPACE WOULD NOT PERTAIN HERE, CAPTAIN!
ANY IDEA WHERE "HERE" IS YET, MR. SPOCK?
BASED ON THE RUDIMENTARY FACTS AND A QUICK COMPUTATION OF THE FIGURES AVAILABLE, CAPTAIN.... I WOULD SAY THAT WE WERE PRECISELY...
...NOWHERE!

WHAT IN HYPERSPACE ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT, SPOCK?
WELL, THERE IS A RADICAL THEORY IN QUANTUM PHYSICS, KNOWN AS THE MULTIVERSE COROLLARY, WHICH STATES..
HO! CAPTAIN! I'M GETTING SIGNALS NOW.. IT'S STRANGE
THERE'S SOMETHING FLOATING AROUND OUT THERE! LOOKS LIKE A CAPSULE!
PREPARE A LAUNCH, CHEKHOV! WE'RE GOING AFTER IT!
COME ON, SPOCK, YOU CAN FINISH YOUR LECTURE ON THE WAY!
THE HANGARS
PUT SIMPLY, CAPTAIN, WE COULD BE INSIDE THE PRIMAL ATOM IN A SUB-SPACE UNIVERSE PARALLEL TO OUR OWN!
TO PUT IT SIMPLY, SPOCK?
YES, LT. NOVA?
THE EXTRAVEHICULAR REPAIR POD IS FIRED AND READY TO GO, SIR, ONLY . . . .


ONLY...?
IT'S THE MAGNETIC LINES OF FORCE IN THE POWER-PACKS... THEY'VE...
I KNOW: GONE DEAD! NOW WHAT, SPOCK?
ASSUMING THE MULTIVERSE COROLLARY IS CORRECT, CAPTAIN, THEN: "THERE IS NO RESISTANCE TO THOUGHT IN A VOID!"
YOUR WILL AND THESE HELMETS SHOULD PROVE SUFFICIENT!
PLACING THE HELMET ON HER HEAD, LT. NOVA RECEIVES AN ODD SENSATION, THEN..
IT'S INCREDIBLE, CAPTAIN! THE WHOLE POD FEELS LIKE A PART OF MY ARM! I CAN MOVE IT AT WILL! IT WORKS!
U.S.S. ENTERPRISE
OF COURSE! SHALL WE PROCEED?
BY ALL MEANS, SPOCK! AND LT. NOVA, YOU'RE COMING WITH US!
MODULE IS DISENGAGED, CAPTAIN!
GOOD! NOW LET'S FIND THAT CAPSULE!
THERE IT IS, CAPTAIN!


IT'S A CYLINDER AND IT APPEARS TO BE . . .
HUMANOID IN CONSTRUCTION, CAPTAIN!
LIEUTENANT?
GOT IT SIR! IT FEELS LIKE . . . IT'S IN THE PALM OF MY HAND!
ONCE BACK ON BOARD . . .
HOLD ON TO YOUR HELMETS, FOLKS! THERE'S A "LIVE ONE" IN THIS "THING"!
SOMETHING ALIVE IN THERE? THEN PERHAPS WE'D BEST MOVE IT TO..
BEEP BEEP BEEP BEEP
. . . SICK BAY!
AS YOU CAN SEE, CAPTAIN, THERE IS DEF. . LOOK!
IT'S OPENING!

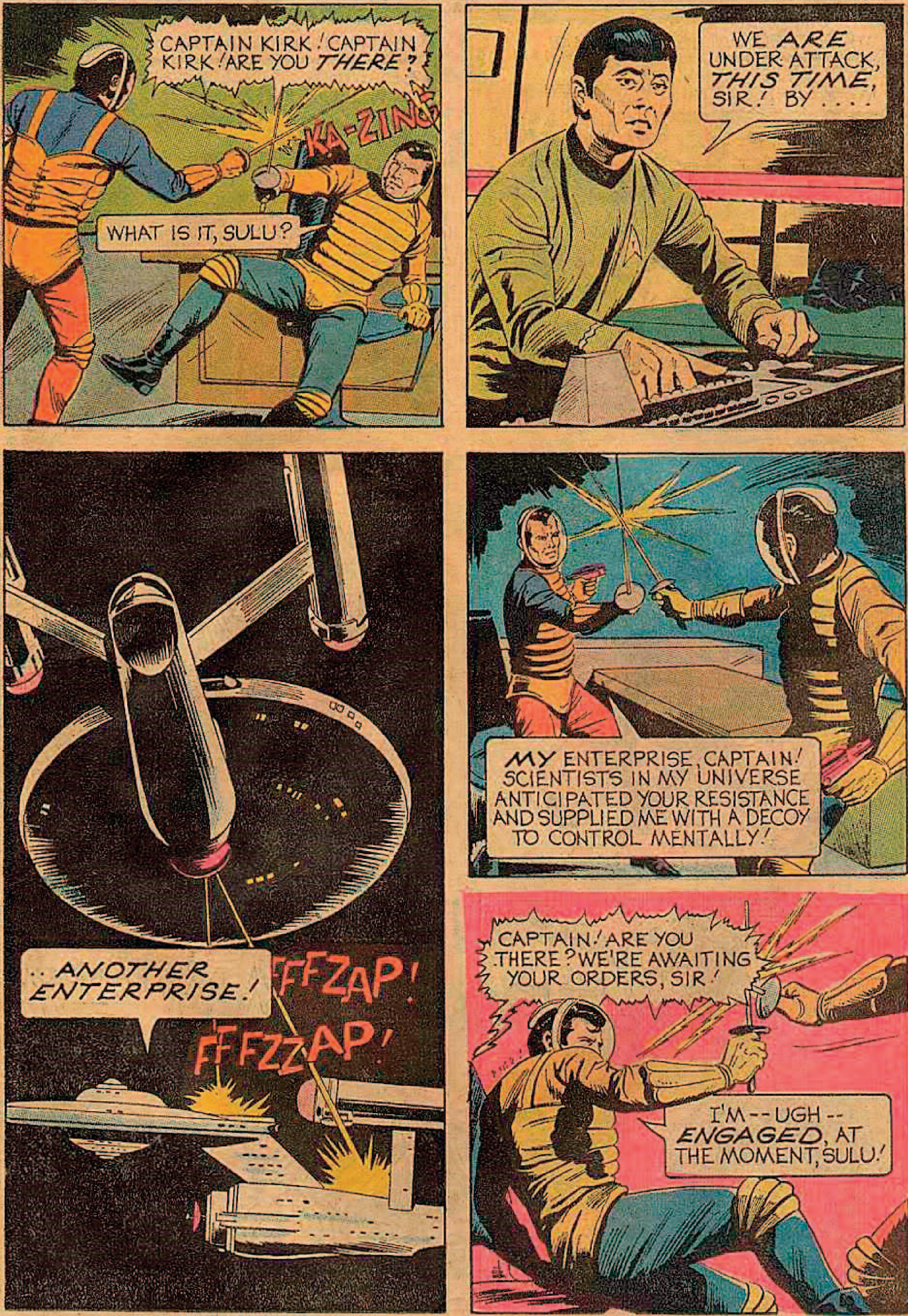
WELL DON'T JUST STAND THERE GAPING MR. SPOCK! HELP ME OUT OF THIS THING, WE HAVEN'T GOT MUCH TIME!
HOLD IT, MISTER! WHO DO YOU THINK YOU ARE, GIVING ORDERS?
WHO DO I THINK I AM? HA! TELL HIM, DR. McCOY!
WHY-UH--I DON'T UNDERSTAND IT!
I'VE JUST RUN HIS METABOLISM READ-OUT THROUGH THE COMPUTER, JIM! FOR ALL PRACTICAL INTENTS AND PURPOSES, THIS MAN IS--
--YOU!
BUT THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE! THERE CAN'T BE TWO BEINGS EXACTLY THE SAME IN THE WHOLE UNIVERSE!
HOW TRUE, CAPTAIN KIRK, HOW TRUE! BUT, YOU SEE, I'M--

--NOT FROM YOUR UNIVERSE!
I'M FROM THE UNIVERSE BEFORE THIS ONE!
THE WAY THEY EXPLAINED IT TO ME WAS: THE UNIVERSE JUST DOESN'T EXPLODE AND COLLAPSE ONCE! IT KEEPS DOING IT OVER AND OVER, AGAIN!
AND EVERY TIME IT DOES, THINGS HAPPEN EXACTLY THE SAME EACH TIME! NOBODY HAS ANY CHOICE IN THE MATTER!
AT LEAST THAT WAS THE THEORY UNTIL SOMEONE CAME UP WITH THE FIGURES PROVING THERE IS A SINGLE INSTANT OF VARIATION IN EACH UNIVERSE. WE CALL THIS..
..THE FREE WILL THEOREM!
SINCE WE HAD ALREADY MISSED OUR MOMENT, I VOLUNTEERED TO BE PLACED IN SUSPENDED ANIMATION INSIDE THE CAPSULE, SO THAT, AT THE PROPER TIME, I COULD EMERGE AND FOREWARN THE SOLITARY BEING IN THIS UNIVERSE WHO POSSESSES FREEWILL ABOUT THE CHOICE!

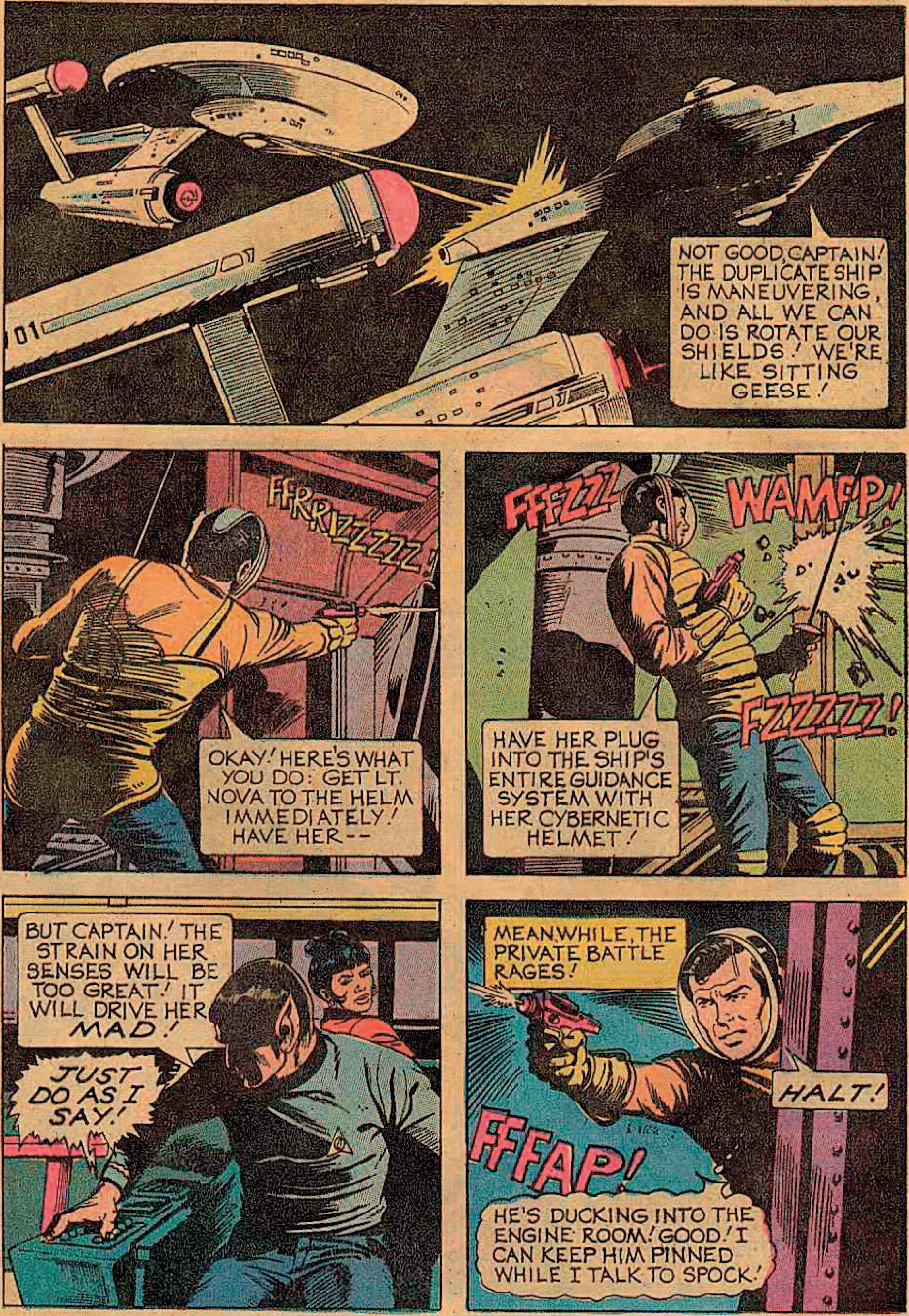
NOW YOU, MY DUPLICATE, HAVE FOUND ME AS CALCULATED, THE PROPER TIME IS NEAR! ALL I NEED DO IS TAKE THIS SHIP AND --
WHAT!?! WHY SHOULD I HAND OVER MY SHIP?
BECAUSE, CAPTAIN, I HAVE TO ENTER YOUR UNIVERSE AND WE BOTH CAN'T EXIST THERE WITHOUT DESTROYING IT! YOU'LL HAVE TO STAY BEHIND!
WHAT IF I DON'T?
THEN THE BEING WITH FREE WILL WON'T MAKE USE OF THE CHOICE AND THE UNIVERSE IS DOOMED TO REPEAT ITSELF, INTO ETERNITY!
NO! I DON'T BUY IT!
I REFUSE TO BELIEVE THAT WE ARE NOT MASTERS OF OUR OWN FATES!
I KNOW HOW YOU FEEL, CAPTAIN! IT WAS HARD FOR ME TO SWALLOW, TOO! THEREFORE I'LL GIVE YOU A CHOICE!!
EITHER YOU TAKE MY PLACE IN THE CYLINDER . . . OR WE HAVE A FIGHT TO THE DEATH!
WHAT DO YOU SAY, CAPTAIN? . . . . ARE YOU GAME?
I'M GAME!
END OF PART I

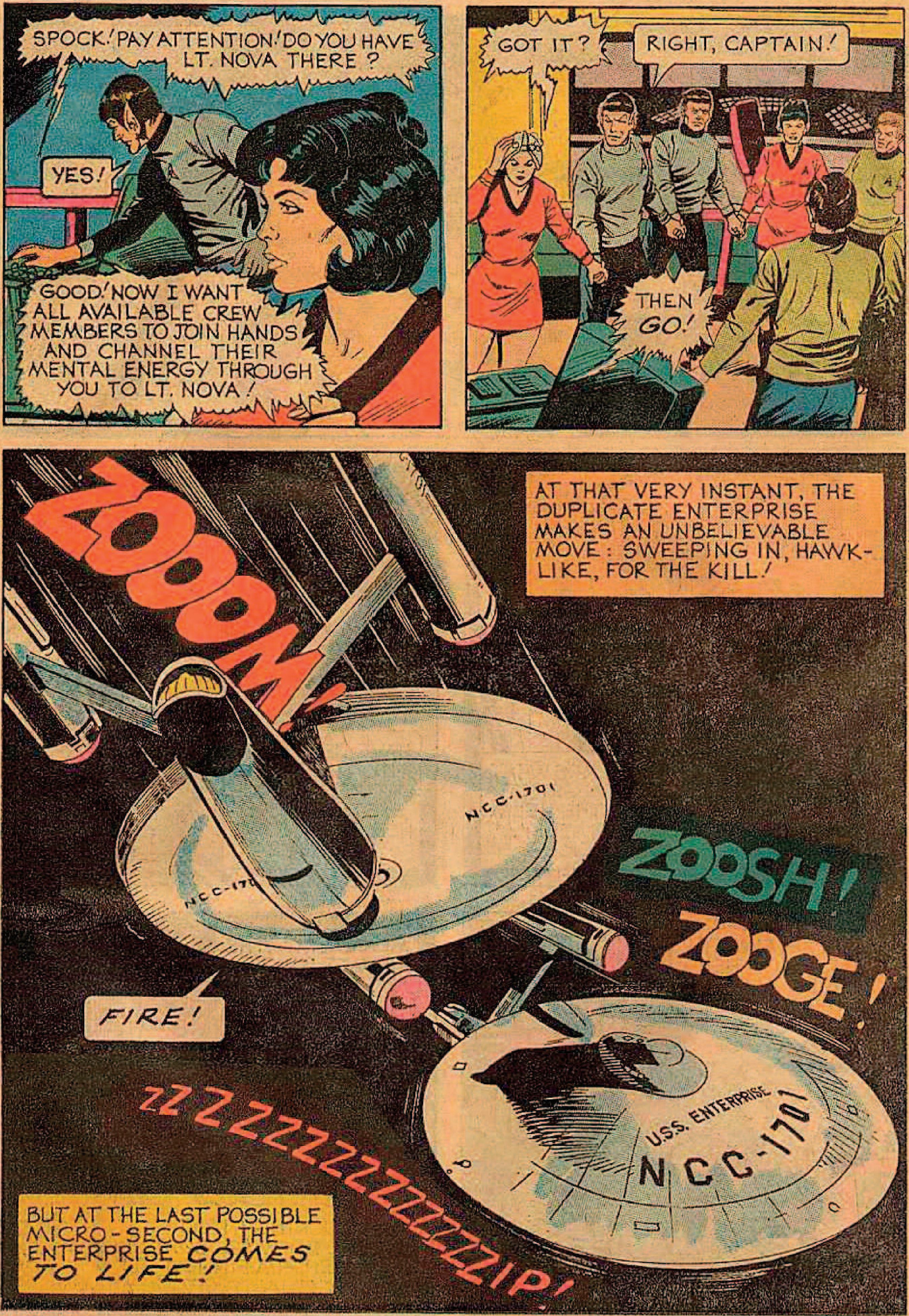
STAR TREK PART 2
The CHOICE
CAPTAIN'S LOG: STAR DATE: 17:0 2.??: TRAPPED IN A TIMELESS, PLACELESS VOID, INSIDE THE ONE PIECE OF MATTER THAT EXISTS FROM UNIVERSE TO UNIVERSE, I HAVE BEEN CONFRONTED BY MY OWN DOUBLE! HE CLAIMS TO COME FROM THE PREVIOUS UNIVERSE, COME HERE TO WARN THE ONE BEING, SOMEWHERE IN THE COSMOS, WHOSE LIFE IS NOT PREDESTINED, TO MAKE THE RIGHT CHOICE! WHO THAT BEING IS, WHERE HE IS, AND WHAT IS THE RIGHT CHOICE, ALL REMAIN A MYSTERY! BUT ALL THAT MATTERS NOW IS THE UNIVERSE ISN'T BIG ENOUGH FOR BOTH OF US! ONE HAS TO BE LEFT BEHIND IF ANY ARE TO SURVIVE!
IT IS AGREED, THEN! WE DUEL IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE FEDERATION'S CODE OF HONOR, CAPTAIN!
AGREED, CAPTAIN!

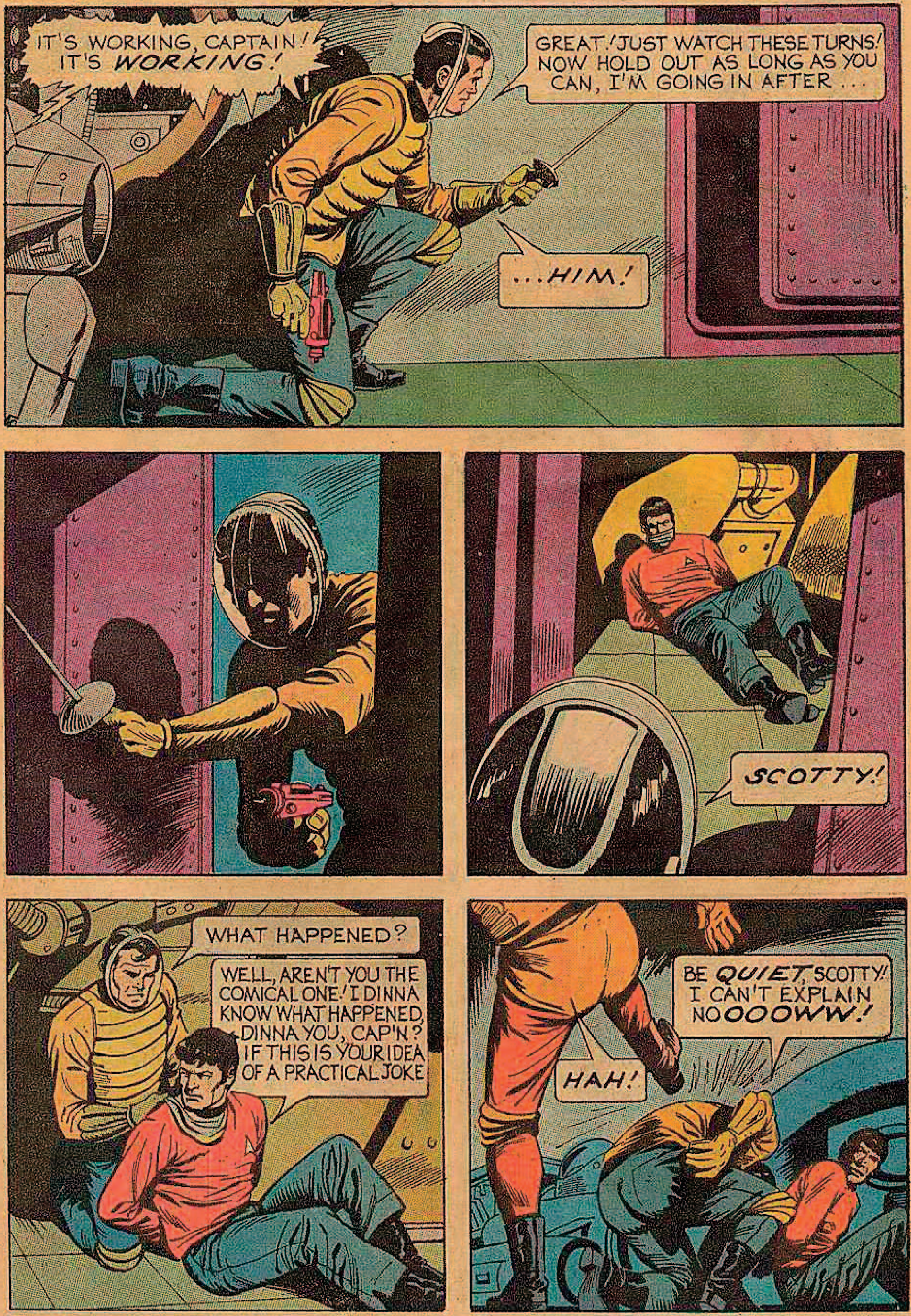
MR. SPOCK SHALL SERVE AS MY SECOND!
VERY WELL, I WAIVE MY SECOND, CAPTAIN!
THE CHOICE OF WEAPONS IS YOURS, SIR!
BESIDES THE TRADITIONAL LASER-TORCH...
...I CHOOSE: HAND PHASERS SET ON KILL ...AND...
THE ENTERPRISE!
WHAT???
ZZZZZISH!
ON GUARD!
OOOF!
THROO-WOOMM
...AARGH!
UUURRRUUURRRUUURRRUUURRRUUURR


CAPTAIN KIRK! CAPTAIN KIRK! ARE YOU THERE?
KA-ZING
WHAT IS IT, SULU?
WE ARE UNDER ATTACK, THIS TIME, SIR! BY . . .
.. ANOTHER ENTERPRISE!
FFFZAP!
FFFZZAP!
MY ENTERPRISE, CAPTAIN! SCIENTISTS IN MY UNIVERSE ANTICIPATED YOUR RESISTANCE AND SUPPLIED ME WITH A DECOY TO CONTROL MENTALLY!
CAPTAIN! ARE YOU THERE? WE'RE AWAITING YOUR ORDERS, SIR!
I'M -- UGH -- ENGAGED, AT THE MOMENT, SULU!

SHHEROOSH!
ZZZWISH!
CAPTAIN! CAPTAIN! THEY'RE CLOSING IN!
SPOCK! GO TO THE BRIDGE! TAKE MY ORDERS THROUGH THE INTER-COM! KEEP ALL LEVELS OPEN! I'M GOING AFTER THIS-THIS- WHOEVER HE IS!
YES, SIR!
SECONDS LATER...
I'M HERE CAPTAIN!
GOOD! I'VE GOT SIGHT OF.. WHIZZAZ **CRACKLE** -UH....
HELLO, CAPTAIN! ARE YOU STILL THERE?
JUST BARELY, SPOCK! WHAT'S THE SITUATION UP THERE?


NOT GOOD, CAPTAIN! THE DUPLICATE SHIP IS MANEUVERING, AND ALL WE CAN DO IS ROTATE OUR SHIELDS! WE'RE LIKE SITTING GEESE!
FFRRIZZZZZ!
OKAY! HERE'S WHAT YOU DO: GET LT. NOVA TO THE HELM IMMEDIATELY! HAVE HER--
FFFZZZ
WAMPP!
FZZZZZZ!
HAVE HER PLUG INTO THE SHIP'S ENTIRE GUIDANCE SYSTEM WITH HER CYBERNETIC HELMET!
BUT CAPTAIN! THE STRAIN ON HER SENSES WILL BE TOO GREAT! IT WILL DRIVE HER MAD!
JUST DO AS I SAY!
MEANWHILE, THE PRIVATE BATTLE RAGES!
HALT!
FFFAP!
HE'S DUCKING INTO THE ENGINE ROOM! GOOD! I CAN KEEP HIM PINNED WHILE I TALK TO SPOCK!


SPOCK! PAY ATTENTION! DO YOU HAVE LT. NOVA THERE ?
YES!
GOOD! NOW I WANT ALL AVAILABLE CREW MEMBERS TO JOIN HANDS AND CHANNEL THEIR MENTAL ENERGY THROUGH YOU TO LT. NOVA!
GOT IT ?
RIGHT, CAPTAIN!
THEN GO!
ZOOOM!
AT THAT VERY INSTANT, THE DUPLICATE ENTERPRISE MAKES AN UNBELIEVABLE MOVE: SWEEPING IN, HAWK-LIKE, FOR THE KILL!
NCC-1701
ZOOSH!
ZOOGE!
FIRE!
U.S.S. ENTERPRISE
ZZZZZZZZZZZZZZZIP!
BUT AT THE LAST POSSIBLE MICRO-SECOND, THE ENTERPRISE COMES TO LIFE!


IT'S WORKING, CAPTAIN! IT'S WORKING!
GREAT! JUST WATCH THESE TURNS! NOW HOLD OUT AS LONG AS YOU CAN, I'M GOING IN AFTER ...
...HIM!
SCOTTY!
WHAT HAPPENED?
WELL, AREN'T YOU THE COMICAL ONE! I DINNA KNOW WHAT HAPPENED, DINNA YOU, CAP'N? IF THIS IS YOUR IDEA OF A PRACTICAL JOKE
BE QUIET, SCOTTY! I CAN'T EXPLAIN NOOOOWW!
HAH!

I HAVE YOU NOW, KIRK! AND YOUR SHIP! I GIVE YOU ONE CHANCE TO RECONSIDER!
WHAT DO YOU SAY?
BUT THE REPLY IS SWIFT!
SPOCK! DROP ALL SHIELDS!
KA-THOOM!
RESUME SHIELDING, SPOCK!
GO ON, KILL ME! KILL ME! GET IT OVER WITH!
FFFRIIIII!

CAPTAIN! THE DUPLICATE ENTERPRISE HAS JUST DISAPPEARED! VANISHED!
THAT'S OKAY.. IT'S ALL OVER NOW!
IS HE...?
THE KIRK DOUBLE IS RETURNED TO SUSPENDED ANIMATION....
DEAD, SCOTTY? OH NO! I NEVER SET MY PHASER ON KILL! HE'S JUST STUNNED SO WE CAN...
...AND SET ADRIFT, ONCE MORE!
...PUT HIM BACK IN SPACE!
I ESTIMATE THAT WE NEVER WILL KNOW IF HE ACTUALLY WAS WHO HE CLAIMED TO BE!
THEN THERE VERY WELL MIGHT HAVE BEEN A MAN IN OUR UNIVERSE WHO HELD THE KEY TO THE FUTURE???
YES, AND THAT MAN WAS CAPTAIN KIRK!
WHA-? HOW?!
YOU WERE THE MAN WITH FREE WILL, CAPTAIN, AND THE MOMENT CAME WHEN YOU DECIDED NOT TO KILL ME!

YOU'VE MADE YOUR CHOICE, CAPTAIN AND NOW, I SALUTE YOU!
WAIT, I --!
THE AURA TRANSMISSION HAS ENDED, CAPTAIN AND THE CYLINDER HAS JUST DROPPED FROM OUR SCANNERS!
I-I WANTED TO ASK HIM IF I MADE THE RIGHT CHOICE!
LET'S GO SPOCK! THIS PLACE IS STARTING TO GET TO ME!
BUT HOW CAPTAIN?
MOMENTS LATER...
LIKE THIS, SPOCK!
EVERYBODY-CONCENTRATE!!

SPOCK! I WAS JUST WONDERING! WHAT *IF* THERE WERE SUCH A THING AS *THE CHOICE*...AND I MADE THE *WRONG* ONE!
THEN...CAPTAIN ..THE UNIVERSE AS WE KNOW IT ...MAY...NO... LONGER... *EXIST*!
WE'RE MOVING!
IT'S *NORMAL SPACE*, CAPTAIN! I'M GETTING VISUALS ON MY SCREEN!!!
WAIT! SOMETHING'S *WRONG*! THE *STARS* ARE ALL *FLICKERING OUT*!
THE UNIVERSE, IT'S *GONE*!

NO! WAIT! THEY'RE BACK!!
WE JUST-UH-HAD A LITTLE DIFFICULTY LOCKING INTO IT, THAT'S ALL!
WHEW! SIGH! WOW!
DON'T EVER SCARE ME LIKE THAT AGAIN, CHEKHOV!
CAPTAIN'S LOG: STAR DATE: 17:02.3... A WEEK HAS PASSED SINCE OUR ESCAPE FROM THE PRIMAL ATOM AND WE STILL MAKE OUR WAY BACK TO STARBASE! THIS MORNING I HAD THE FOLLOWING CONVERSATION WITH MR. SPOCK:
YOU KNOW, MR. SPOCK, I'M STILL NOT SURE IF WHAT HAPPENED BACK THERE WAS FOR REAL OR NOT!
IS IT POSSIBLE THAT EVERYTHING WE DO, HAS BEEN DONE BEFORE?
IT IS NOT ONLY POSSIBLE, CAPTAIN, IT IS HIGHLY PROBABLE!!
THEN WHY DO IT AT ALL?
DO WE HAVE ANY CHOICE, CAPTAIN?

GOLD KEY
STAR TREK
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STAR TREK
The PsychoCrystals— They Glitter With Death!

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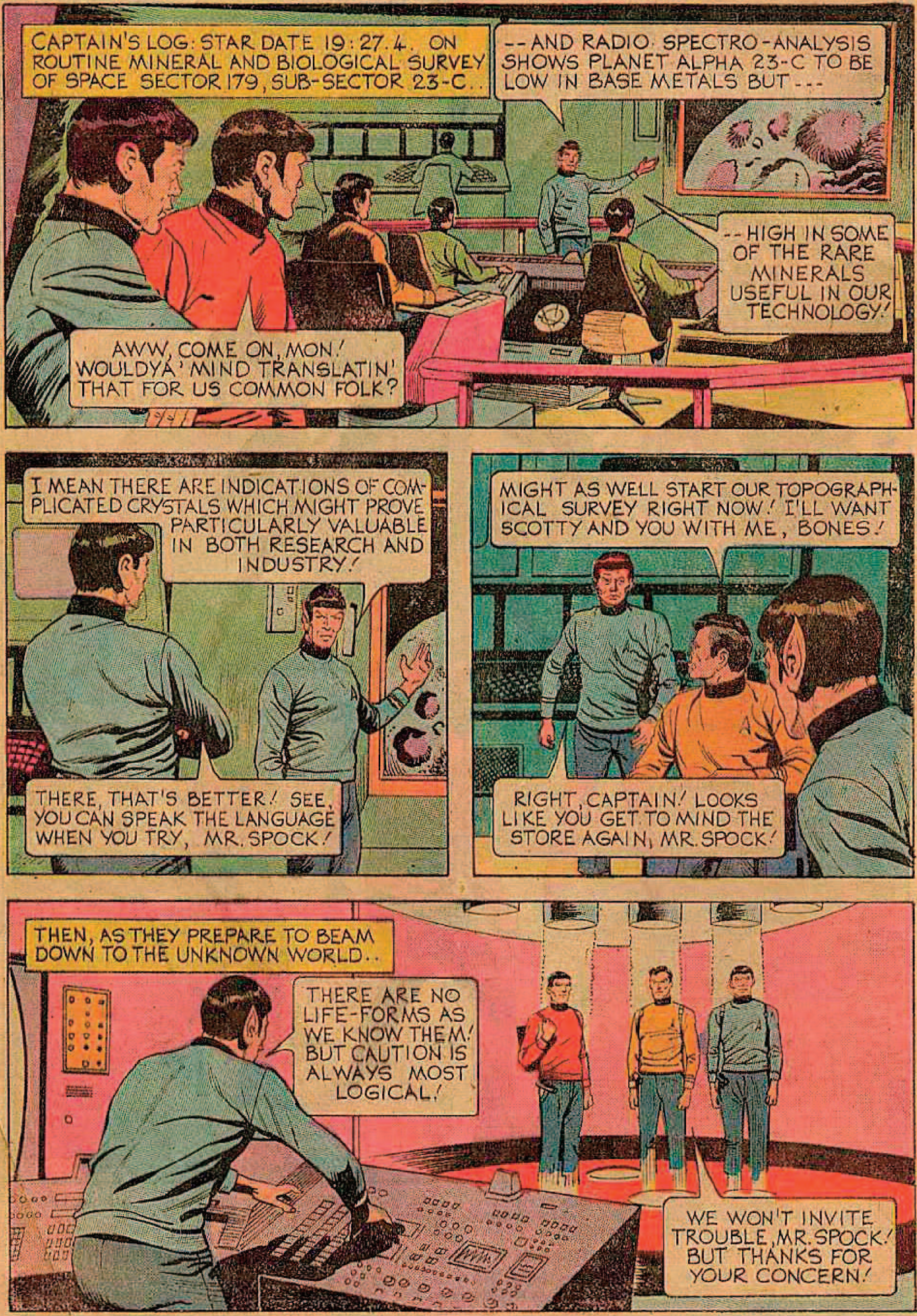
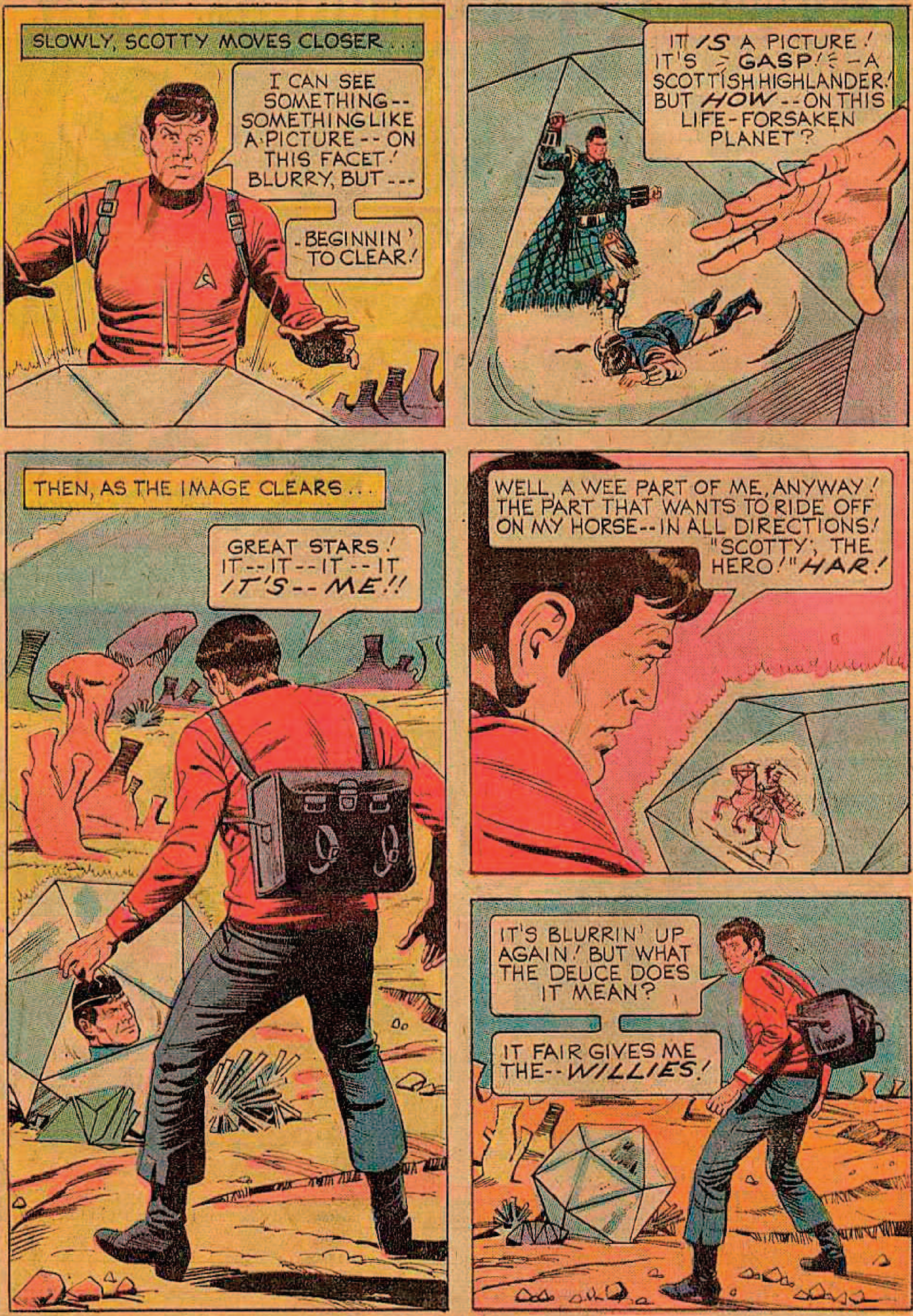
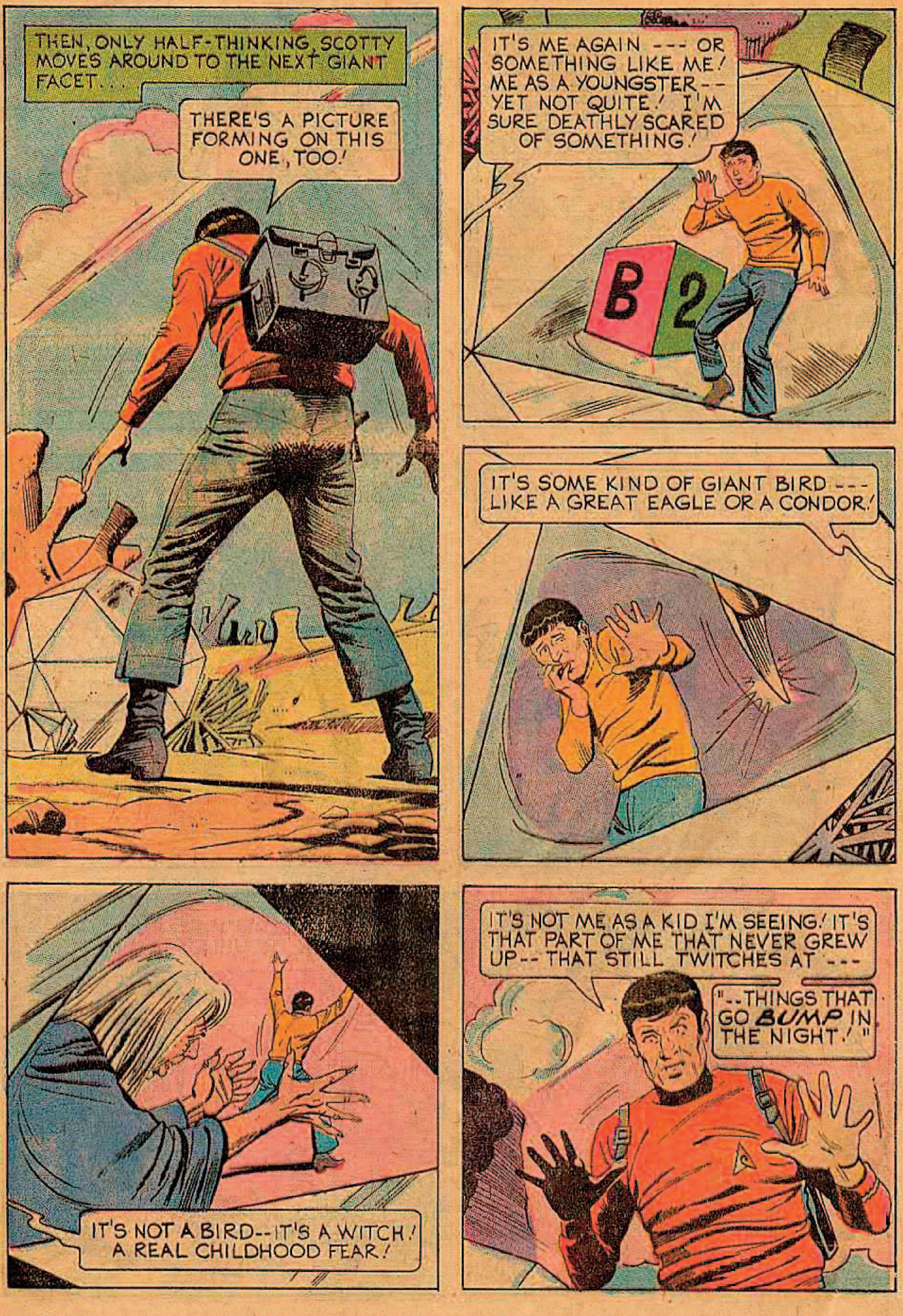

CAPTAIN'S LOG: STAR DATE 19:27.4. ON ROUTINE MINERAL AND BIOLOGICAL SURVEY OF SPACE SECTOR 179, SUB-SECTOR 23-C..
--AND RADIO SPECTRO-ANALYSIS SHOWS PLANET ALPHA 23-C TO BE LOW IN BASE METALS BUT---
--HIGH IN SOME OF THE RARE MINERALS USEFUL IN OUR TECHNOLOGY!
AWW, COME ON, MON! WOULDYA' MIND TRANSLATIN' THAT FOR US COMMON FOLK?
I MEAN THERE ARE INDICATIONS OF COMPLICATED CRYSTALS WHICH MIGHT PROVE PARTICULARLY VALUABLE IN BOTH RESEARCH AND INDUSTRY!
THERE, THAT'S BETTER! SEE, YOU CAN SPEAK THE LANGUAGE WHEN YOU TRY, MR. SPOCK!
MIGHT AS WELL START OUR TOPOGRAPHICAL SURVEY RIGHT NOW! I'LL WANT SCOTTY AND YOU WITH ME, BONES!
RIGHT, CAPTAIN! LOOKS LIKE YOU GET TO MIND THE STORE AGAIN, MR. SPOCK!
THEN, AS THEY PREPARE TO BEAM DOWN TO THE UNKNOWN WORLD..
THERE ARE NO LIFE-FORMS AS WE KNOW THEM! BUT CAUTION IS ALWAYS MOST LOGICAL!
WE WON'T INVITE TROUBLE, MR. SPOCK! BUT THANKS FOR YOUR CONCERN!

ONE SECOND LATER, ON THE BARREN SPACE BODY . . . .
HOOT, MON! I'M *THAT* WOOZEY! HEADACHE -- NAUSEA! NEVER FELT *THAT* BEFORE!
YOU'RE RIGHT, SCOTTY! YOU OUGHT TO INSPECT THE TRANSPORTER WHEN WE GET BACK --
--- OR ONE OF THESE TRIPS, WE'RE GOING TO WIND UP WEARING A NOSE FOR A KNEECAP!
SEE THAT YOU DO, SCOTTY --
--- I DON'T RELISH THE IDEA OF BEING SCRAMBLED BY A MAL-FUNCTIONING TRANSPORTER!
SINCE THE AIR IS BREATHABLE, HOW COME THE PLACE IS BARREN OF LIFE, CAPTAIN?
IT TAKES MORE THAN OXYGEN TO SUPPORT LIFE! CARBON, NITROGEN AND SO FORTH!
ALL RIGHT, HANG CLOSE TOGETHER AND KEEP ALERT!
CAUTIOUSLY, THEY MAKE THEIR WAY ACROSS THE INHOSPITABLE LANDSCAPE UNTIL . . . .
WE'LL SPLIT HERE FOR THE MOMENT! YOU'RE THE BEST "ROCK-EATER", SCOTTY, SO YOU CLIMB THE PLATEAU!
BONES, YOU TAKE THE LEFT PATH AROUND THE PLATEAU AND I'LL TAKE THE RIGHT! WE ALL MEET ON THE OTHER SIDE!
ROGER, CAPTAIN! GOOD LUCK TO US ALL!

"YOU'RE THE BEST 'ROCK-EATER', SCOTTY--SO YOU CLIMB THE PLATEAU!"
SOMETIMES I WISH I DIDN'T HAVE THAT MUCH GOAT IN ME!
WELL, WILLYA' LOOK AT THEM BEAUTIES! WORTH THE TRIP IN THEMSELVES! I KNOW A LITTLE LADY ON JUPITER COLONY-5 WHO'D LOVE A NECKLACE OF 'EM!
I'LL CHOP A SAMPLE FOR THE SURVEY --- AND A HANDFUL-OF-GLITTER FOR MISS JUPITER-5!
BUT, BEFORE SCOTTY CAN BRING THE PICK DOWN..
CRRZZZZ!
EYYYY-AAAAA!
GREAT MOONS OF MARS! THAT THING "FIRED" AT ME!


SLOWLY, SCOTTY MOVES CLOSER . . .
I CAN SEE SOMETHING-- SOMETHING LIKE A PICTURE--ON THIS FACET! BLURRY, BUT---
-BEGINNIN' TO CLEAR!
IT IS A PICTURE! IT'S -GASP!- -A SCOTTISH HIGHLANDER! BUT HOW--ON THIS LIFE-FORSAKEN PLANET?
THEN, AS THE IMAGE CLEARS . . .
GREAT STARS! IT--IT--IT--IT IT'S--ME!!
WELL, A WEE PART OF ME, ANYWAY! THE PART THAT WANTS TO RIDE OFF ON MY HORSE--IN ALL DIRECTIONS! "SCOTTY", THE HERO!" HAR!
IT'S BLURRIN' UP AGAIN! BUT WHAT THE DEUCE DOES IT MEAN?
IT FAIR GIVES ME THE--WILLIES!


THEN, ONLY HALF-THINKING, SCOTTY MOVES AROUND TO THE NEXT GIANT FACET...
THERE'S A PICTURE FORMING ON THIS ONE, TOO!
IT'S ME AGAIN --- OR SOMETHING LIKE ME! ME AS A YOUNGSTER -- YET NOT QUITE! I'M SURE DEATHLY SCARED OF SOMETHING!
B 2
IT'S SOME KIND OF GIANT BIRD --- LIKE A GREAT EAGLE OR A CONDOR!
IT'S NOT A BIRD--IT'S A WITCH! A REAL CHILDHOOD FEAR!
IT'S NOT ME AS A KID I'M SEEING! IT'S THAT PART OF ME THAT NEVER GREW UP-- THAT STILL TWITCHES AT ---
"--THINGS THAT GO BUMP IN THE NIGHT!"

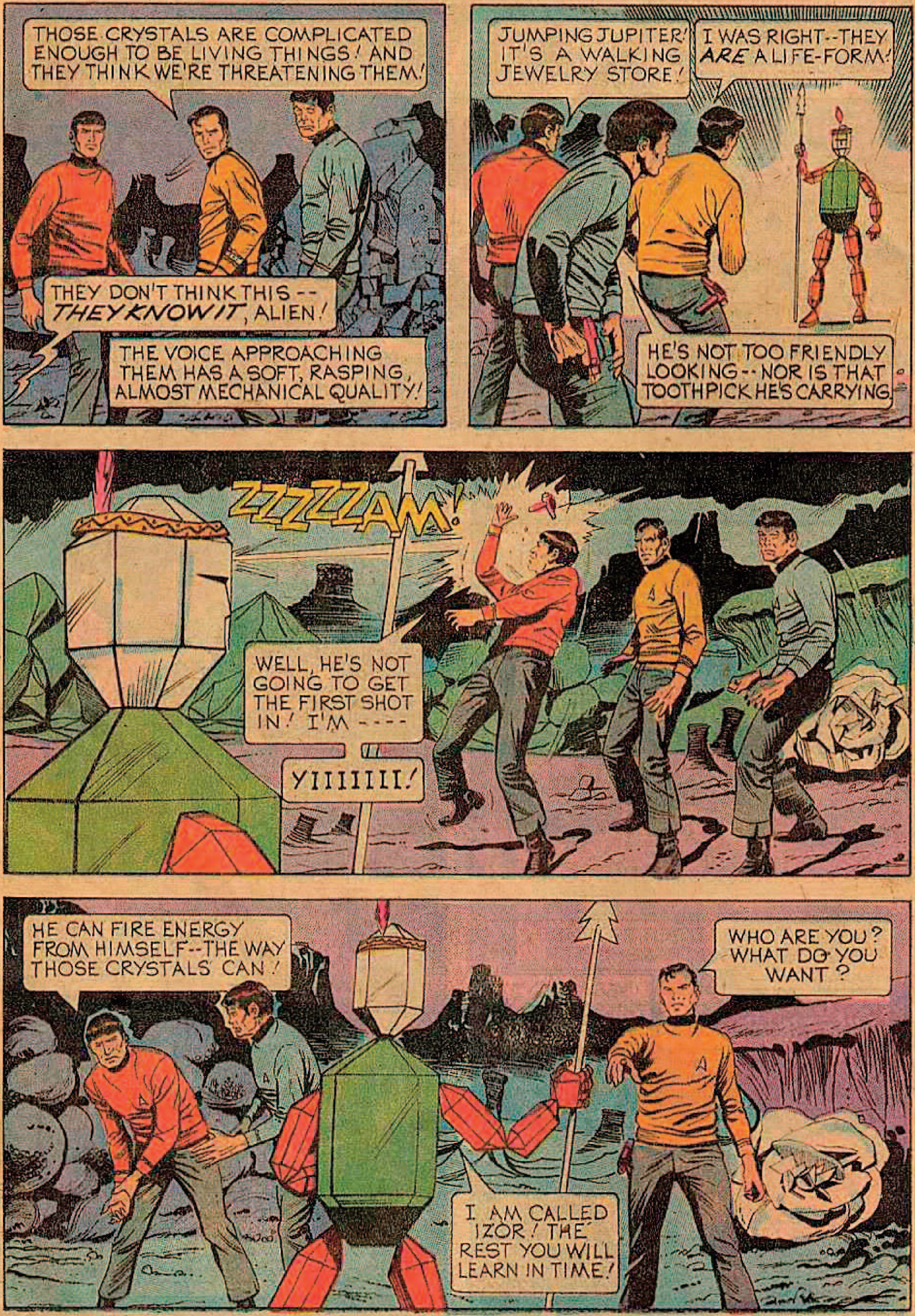
ASTOUNDED, EVEN A BIT FRIGHTENED, SCOTTY MOVES ALMOST HYPNOTICALLY ON ....
AND THAT'S THE DARK SIDE OF US ALL --- THE PART OF ME I DON'T EVEN TRUST MYSELF! LIKE ONE OF THOSE 20TH CENTURY SECRET AGENT FELLOWS!
THE MAGNET OF SELF-REVELATION DRAWS HIM ON FROM FACET TO FACET!
ME AS A CAREFREE CHUMP ...
2+1=?
... A DEVIL ...
... A FOOL!
THE FLASHES OF INSIGHT WHIZZ PAST HIM IN STAGGERING BRILLIANCE UNTIL..
AYYAAAAAA!
MEANWHILE....
FASCINATING LOOKING! MIGHT BE ONE OF THOSE SOPHISTICATED MINERALS SPOCK SUSPECTED WAS HERE! I'LL CHIP SOME ---
AYYAAAAAA!
SCOTTY! IN TROUBLE!

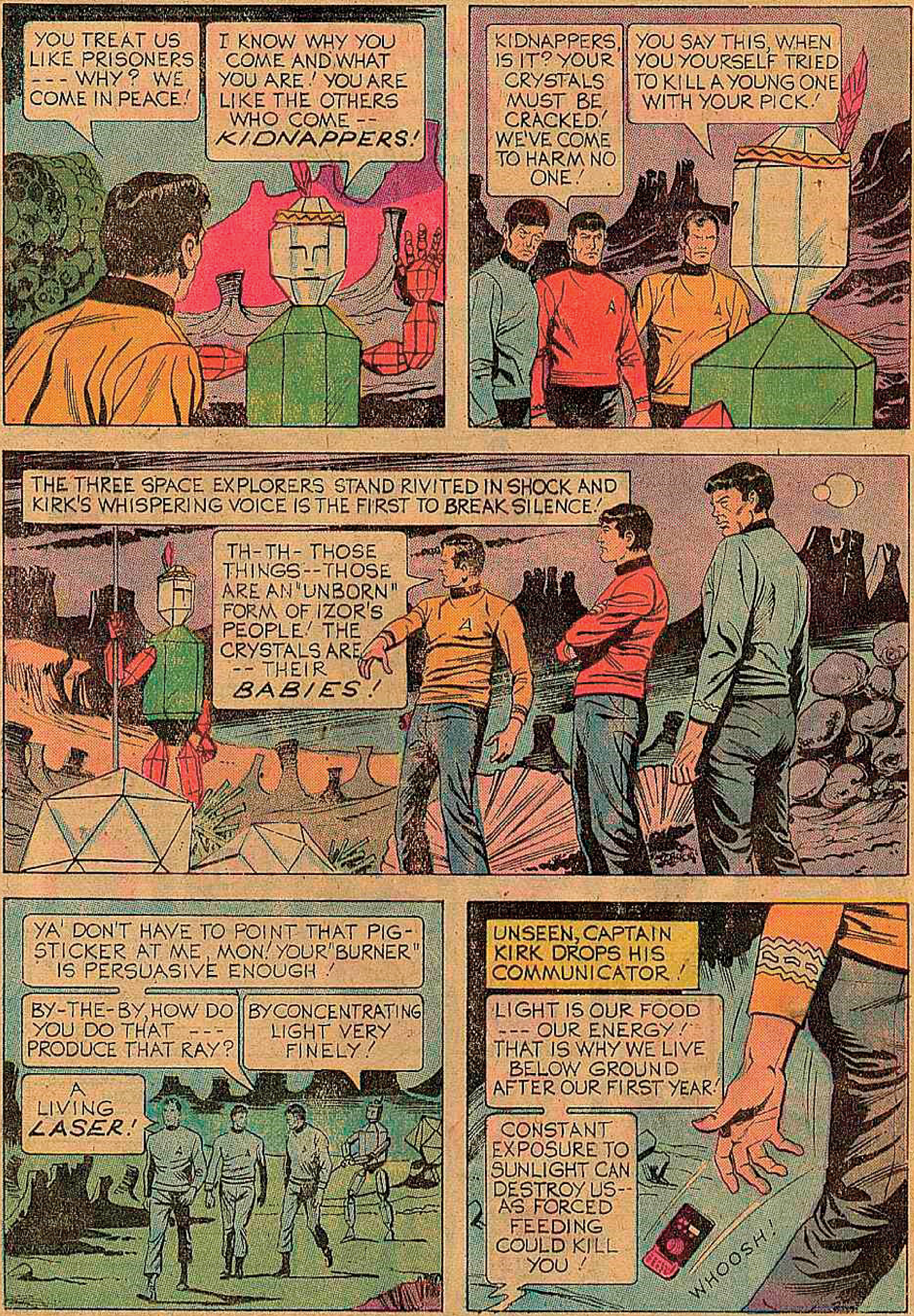
UNCONSCIOUS OF THE DANGER HE HIMSELF HAS JUST AVERTED, KIRK DASHES UP THE TREACHEROUS PLATEAU WALL....
SCOTTY! ALIVE OR ---?
SWIFTLY, KIRK ROUSES MR. SCOTT FROM HIS MINI-COMA....
WHAT'S GOING O--
--OH! IT'S YOU, CAPTAIN! THE CRYSTAL, MON! DON'T LOOK IN IT! THAT THING CAN-- KILL!
SCOTT QUICKLY RECOUNTS THE EXPERIENCE....
--AND THEY REVEAL DIFFERENT ASPECTS OF YOUR PERSONALITY? THEY PROBE YOUR MIND?
RIGHT! I'VE BEEN PSYCHO-ANALYSED BY A ROCK!
I WAS LUCKY TO PASS OUT! I TELL YOU, IF I HADN'T, THAT THING WOULD HAVE KILLED ME-- OR DRIVEN ME INSANE!
AND THOSE THINGS ARE SCATTERED ALL OVER THIS PLANET! COME ON --
--WE'VE GOT TO FIND BONES BEFORE HE STUMBLES ON TO ONE OF THESE THINGS!

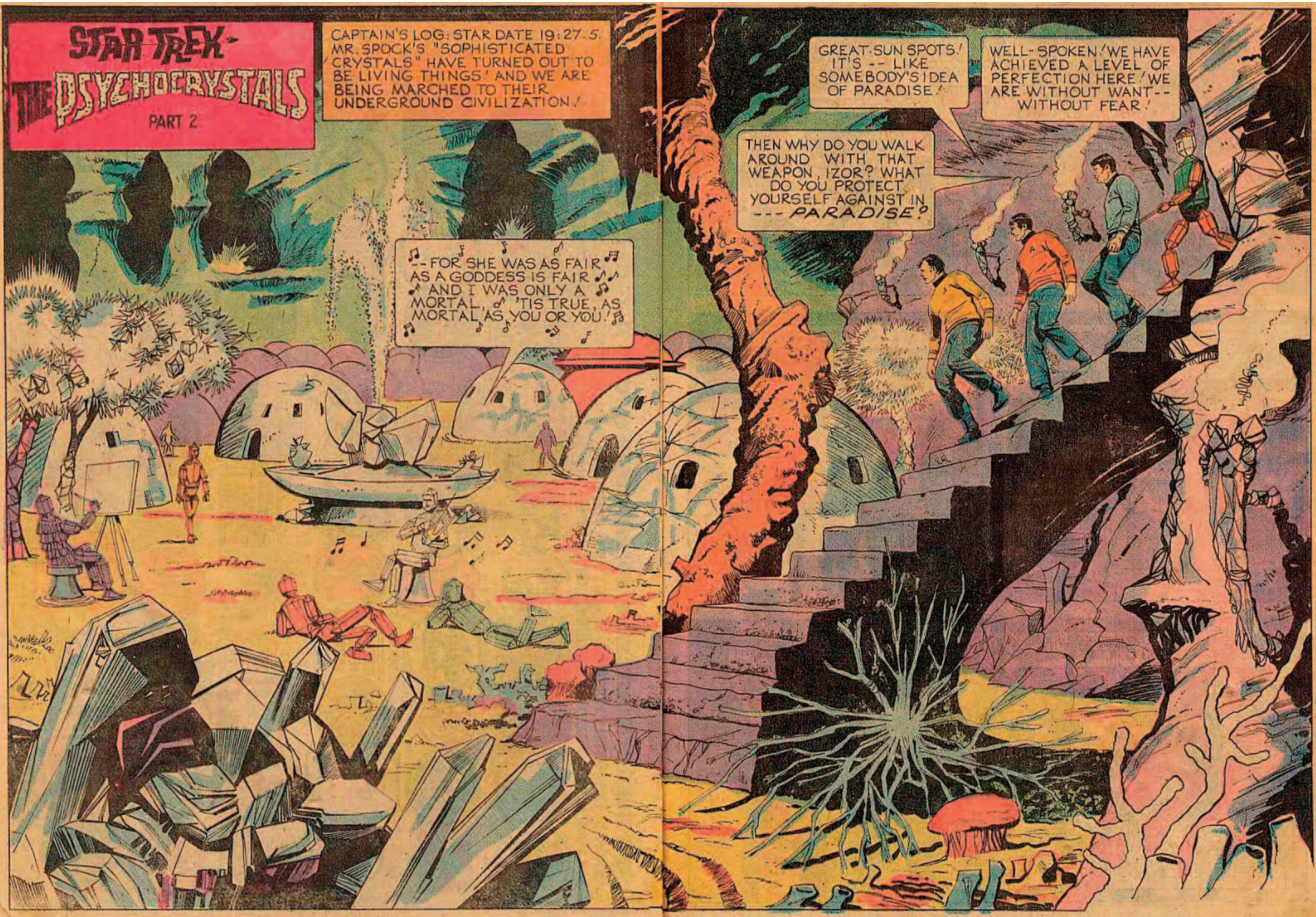
BUT A MOMENT TOO LATE!
HA-HA-HA-HA-HA-HA!
LOOK AT HIM, CAPTAIN! HE'S COMPLETELY--BONKERS!
INSTANTLY, CAPTAIN KIRK WHIRLS THE MANIACAL BONES AROUND AND . . .
WHAPPPP!
WHO DO YOU THINK YOU'RE--OWWUFF!
SECONDS LATER, A CALMER DR. McCOY RISES FROM THE GROUND . . .
WHEW! THAT WAS A CLOSE ONE! THOSE CRYSTALS ARE INSIDIOUS!
YES! THEY'LL FASCINATE SPOCK!
THEY SHOULD! HE'S A SORT OF INTELLIGENT ROCK, HIMSELF!
THEN, AS THE STRANGE TRIPLE MOON RISES . .
ALL RIGHT, STAY AWAY FROM THE CRYSTALS UNTIL WE UNDERSTAND THEM BETTER! NOW LET'S GET SOME SLEEP!
WE'VE STILL GOT A LOT OF GROUND TO COVER!
THEN, IN THE MID-NIGHT . . .
WHA-A-A-A--?!
QUIT FAKING IT, MR. SCOTT! I SAW YOU MOVE! CAUGHT YOU, DIDN'T I, YOU TRAITOROUS RAT?!

WHA-A-A-A?!
DON'T PLAY GAMES WITH ME! YOU WERE TRYING TO KILL ME IN MY SLEEP! OH! I'VE SEEN IT IN YOUR EYES FOR MONTHS!
YOU HATE ME! YOU'RE JEALOUS OF ME, BECAUSE I'M THE COMMANDER! WELL, YOU WON'T KILL ME!
ARRRGH! H-H-HELP! McCOY! THE SKIPPER IS--STRANGLIN' ME!
EVEN IN HIS HALF-SLEEP, THE DOCTOR QUICKLY REACTS.
CAPTAIN KIRK--POSSESSED BY SOMETHING! GONE MAD!
A NARCO-PELLET WILL PUT HIM OUT!
PWOOF!
UGGGGGH!
MY GUESS IS THE SAME CRYSTALS THAT ATTACKED US WITH THE PSYCHOLOGICAL IMAGES --
--ASSAULTED THE CAPTAIN WITH RAYS OF PARANOIA! MADE HIM BELIEVE THAT YOU WERE TRYING TO KILL HIM!
I AWOKE, CONVINCED I'D SEEN YOU STANDING OVER ME WITH A WEAPON! THE SUSPICION AND HATRED! I COULD HAVE KILLED YOU, EASILY!
I BELIEVE YA'! IN FACT, MY WINDPIPES ARE STILL BURNIN' FROM YOUR "CARESS"!

THAT K-O PELLET WILL LEAVE YOU WOOZEY FOR A WHILE! SORRY! BUT THAT EVENS THE SCORE FOR THAT PUNCH YOU GAVE ME!
EHH ?
SUDDENLY, KIRK PULLS HIMSELF FROM A HEAVY STRAND OF THOUGHT . . . .
WE'RE NOT PROPERLY PREPARED TO TACKLE THIS WILD PLANET! WE'LL RETURN TO THE SHIP FOR REINFORCEMENTS AND HEAVIER EQUIPMENT!
GOOD NOTION! I'LL RADIO MR. SPOCK TO "PULL US IN"!
COME IN ENTERPRISE! SCHEDULE THREE TO BEAM UP!
BEEEEEEEEEE!
TENSELY, THEY WAIT FOR THE RUDE "FINGERS" OF THE TRANSPORTER TO LOCK IN!
TOO LONG A DELAY! SOMETHING'S WRONG!
YES! AND I THINK I KNOW WHAT IT IS!
HELLO, MR. SPOCK! DO YOU READ ME? COME IN, ENTERPRISE!
THOSE CRYSTALS -- THEY'RE JAMMING OUR SIGNALS! WE'VE BEEN CUT OFF FROM OUR SHIP!


THOSE CRYSTALS ARE COMPLICATED ENOUGH TO BE LIVING THINGS! AND THEY THINK WE'RE THREATENING THEM!
THEY DON'T THINK THIS -- THEY KNOW IT, ALIEN!
THE VOICE APPROACHING THEM HAS A SOFT, RASPING, ALMOST MECHANICAL QUALITY!
JUMPING JUPITER! IT'S A WALKING JEWELRY STORE!
I WAS RIGHT--THEY ARE A LIFE-FORM!
HE'S NOT TOO FRIENDLY LOOKING--NOR IS THAT TOOTHPICK HE'S CARRYING!
ZZZZZAM!
WELL, HE'S NOT GOING TO GET THE FIRST SHOT IN! I'M ----
YIIIIIII!
HE CAN FIRE ENERGY FROM HIMSELF--THE WAY THOSE CRYSTALS CAN!
WHO ARE YOU? WHAT DO YOU WANT?
I AM CALLED IZOR! THE REST YOU WILL LEARN IN TIME!


YOU TREAT US LIKE PRISONERS --- WHY? WE COME IN PEACE!
I KNOW WHY YOU COME AND WHAT YOU ARE! YOU ARE LIKE THE OTHERS WHO COME -- KIDNAPPERS!
KIDNAPPERS, IS IT? YOUR CRYSTALS MUST BE CRACKED! WE'VE COME TO HARM NO ONE!
YOU SAY THIS, WHEN YOU YOURSELF TRIED TO KILL A YOUNG ONE WITH YOUR PICK!
THE THREE SPACE EXPLORERS STAND RIVITED IN SHOCK AND KIRK'S WHISPERING VOICE IS THE FIRST TO BREAK SILENCE!
TH-TH- THOSE THINGS--THOSE ARE AN "UNBORN" FORM OF IZOR'S PEOPLE! THE CRYSTALS ARE -- THEIR BABIES!
YA' DON'T HAVE TO POINT THAT PIG-STICKER AT ME, MON! YOUR "BURNER" IS PERSUASIVE ENOUGH!
BY-THE-BY, HOW DO YOU DO THAT --- PRODUCE THAT RAY?
BY CONCENTRATING LIGHT VERY FINELY!
A LIVING LASER!
UNSEEN, CAPTAIN KIRK DROPS HIS COMMUNICATOR!
LIGHT IS OUR FOOD --- OUR ENERGY! THAT IS WHY WE LIVE BELOW GROUND AFTER OUR FIRST YEAR!
CONSTANT EXPOSURE TO SUNLIGHT CAN DESTROY US-- AS FORCED FEEDING COULD KILL YOU!
WHOOSH!


STAR TREK
THE PSYCHOCRYSTALS
PART 2
CAPTAIN'S LOG: STAR DATE 19:27.5. MR. SPOCK'S "SOPHISTICATED CRYSTALS" HAVE TURNED OUT TO BE LIVING THINGS! AND WE ARE BEING MARCHED TO THEIR UNDERGROUND CIVILIZATION!
--FOR SHE WAS AS FAIR AS A GODDESS IS FAIR AND I WAS ONLY A MORTAL, 'TIS TRUE, AS MORTAL AS YOU OR YOU!
GREAT SUN SPOTS! IT'S -- LIKE SOMEBODY'S IDEA OF PARADISE!
WELL-SPOKEN! WE HAVE ACHIEVED A LEVEL OF PERFECTION HERE! WE ARE WITHOUT WANT-- WITHOUT FEAR!
THEN WHY DO YOU WALK AROUND WITH THAT WEAPON, IZOR? WHAT DO YOU PROTECT YOURSELF AGAINST IN --- PARADISE?

WOULD YA' LOOK AT THAT? HE'S HANDING HER A BOWL OF FIRE AND--SHE LIKES IT!
HE TOLD US THEY FED ON LIGHT! HER BOY-FRIEND'S BROUGHT HER A SEVEN-LAYER CAKE!
WRONG! IT WAS SOME DOG FOOD HE BROUGHT HOME! SORRY IF THAT SPOILS YOUR ROMANTIC NOTION, DOCTOR!
WHERE ARE YOU TAKING US?
TO SEE THE PRESIDENT! ONLY HE CAN DEAL WITH DEATH-PENALTY CRIMES!
SO THESE ARE THE KIDNAPPERS! FINALLY WE'VE CAUGHT THOSE WHO PREY ON OUR DEFENSELESS YOUNG!
DEFENSELESS? ONE OF THEM GAVE ME A HEAD-ACHE LIKE NOTHING BUT A PILE-DRIVER COULD!
WE ARE INNOCENT, MR. PRESIDENT! PLEASE --- LET ME EXPLAIN!

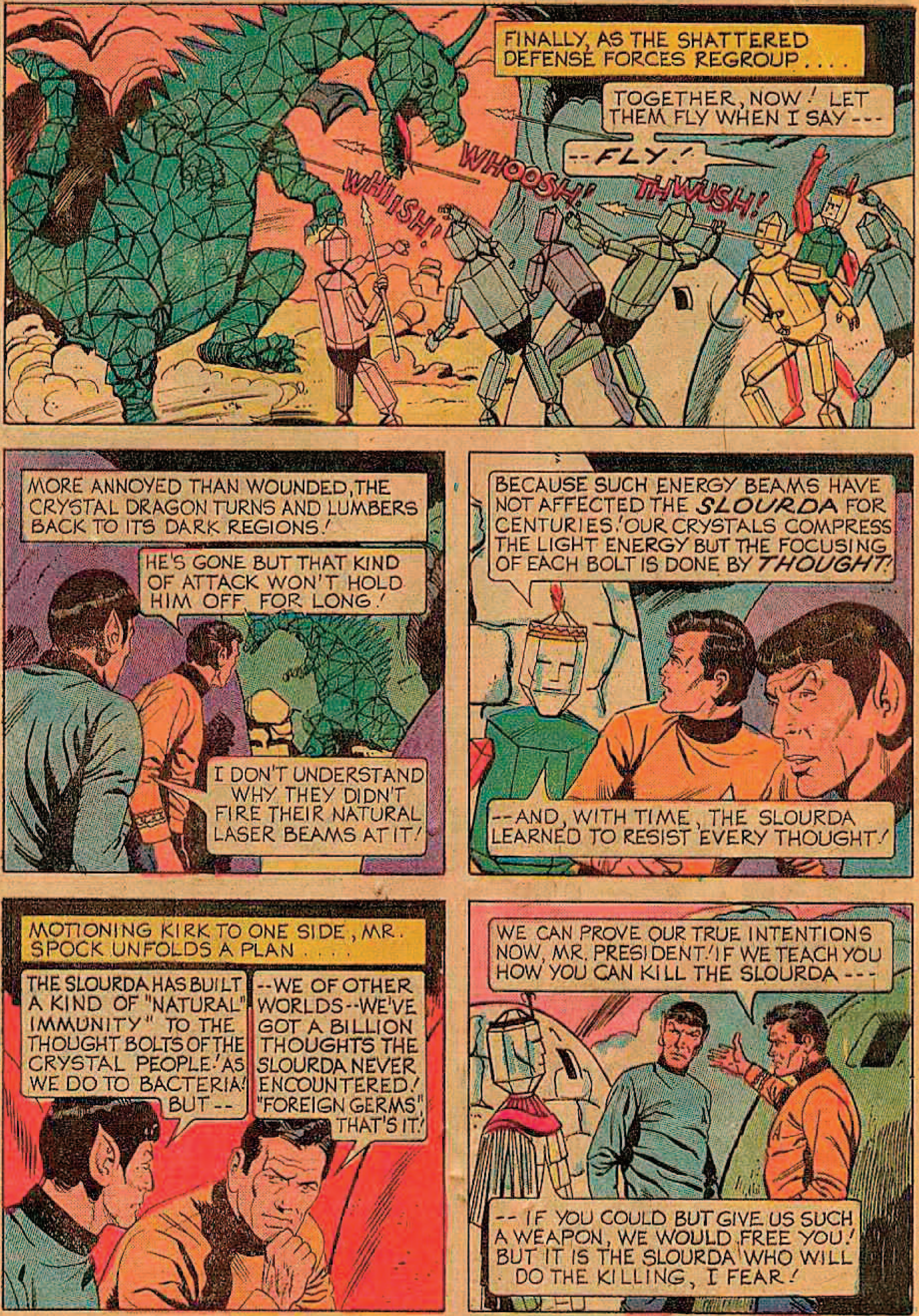
SWIFTLY, CAPTAIN KIRK OUTLINES THE PEACEFUL PURPOSES OF THEIR EXPEDITION....
--A MOST INTERESTING EXPLANATION, CAPTAIN! BUT IT IS STILL A LIE!
A LIE, IS IT? I DON'T CARE IF YOU ARE THE PRESIDENT-
-- YOU'RE A FOOL IF YOU CAN'T SEE THAT WE'RE TELLING THE TRUTH!
IF YOU WERE ONE OF MY OWN PEOPLE, I COULD! WE CAN READ EACH OTHER'S MINDS! BUT YOU COME FROM A COMPLICATED --
-- AND CRAFTY CULTURE! WE DON'T UNDERSTAND HALF OF YOUR THOUGHTS, WITH ALL THEIR TECHNICAL REFERENCES!
BUT I AM SATISFIED OF YOUR GUILT AND FOR IT YOU MUST -- DIE! GUARDS -- IMPRISON THEM!
THREE GUARDS, UNDER IZOR'S COMMAND, MARCH THEM TO A STRANGE "PRISON"....
A PRISON WITHOUT BARS?
IT IS ACTUALLY A LIBRARY --
-WE HAVE NO CRIME, HENCE NO PRISONS! BUT YOU WILL BE WELL GUARDED UNTIL-
WHAT KIND OF BOOKS ARE THESE?
POETRY, ROMANCES, BOOKS OF TRAVEL. WE HAVE NO SCIENTIFIC TEXTS HERE! OUR WORLD DOES WELL WITHOUT SCIENCE AND ITS SO-CALLED "PROGRESS".

WHY DO YOU FEEL THAT WAY ABOUT SCIENCE, IZOR?
WHAT NEED HAVE WE OF IT? THE PURPOSE OF SCIENCE IS TO MAKE BEINGS BETTER UNDERSTAND ONE ANOTHER! -- MY PEOPLE ARE BORN WITH SUCH UNDERSTANDING!
I GO NOW! BUT THE BUILDING IS WELL GUARDED! DO NOT HURRY YOUR MOMENT OF DEATH BY TRYING TO ESCAPE!
IMAGINE BEING LOCKED IN AND CONDEMNED ON A PLANET OF CRAZY POETS AND HARP PLAYERS!
TAKE IT EASY, SCOTTY! YOU SEE, I TOOK ONE SLIGHT PRECAUTION!
MEANWHILE, ON THE SURFACE...
CRRRRACKLE!
THE CAPTAIN MISSED TWO SCHEDULED RADIO CONTACTS WITH THE SHIP! BEST I HAVE A LOOK AROUND!
BUT WHERE TO BEGIN? NO FOOTPRINTS ON THIS ROCKY --
--- A HOMING BEAM FROM THE CAPTAIN! THAT WILL LEAD ME TO THEM!
BEEP! BEEP! BEEP!

QUICKLY SPOCK CHASES DOWN THE SOURCE OF THE SIGNAL . . .
THE CAPTAIN DROPPED HIS COMMUNICATOR HERE! APPARENTLY SOMETHING JAMMED ITS SIGNALS TO THE SHIP, BUT NOT ON THE PLANET'S SURFACE!
WHICH STILL DOES NOT TELL ME WHERE THEY'VE GONE!
THESE ARE SOME OF THE UNUSUAL CRYSTAL FORMATIONS OUR SPECTRO-ANALYSIS INDICATED! ODD --
--HOW SEPARATE AND INDIVIDUAL THEY ARE!
MEANWHILE, AT A POINT NOT FAR BELOW WHERE MR. SPOCK IS STANDING . . .
-- NO, IT IS NOT THE MOMENT OF EXECUTION! BUT I THOUGHT YOU MIGHT WANT TO OBSERVE SOMETHING THROUGH OUR SURFACE VIEWERS!
PERISCOPES, EH? OBSERVE WHAT?
SOMEBODY UP THERE! ONE OF OUR CREW! YES! IT'S MR. SPOCK! HE-- HE'S APPROACHING ONE OF THE CRYSTALS!
NO! DON'T STARE INTO THAT THING, MAN! OVEREXPOSURE IS -- DEADLY! GET AWAY FROM THERE!
WHAT'S THE USE? HE CAN'T HEAR ME!

HE'S STILL STARING STRAIGHT INTO THE CRYSTAL, BUT--
--IT DOES NOT SEEM TO AFFECT HIM! STRANGE! I MUST FOCUS IN ON THE CRYSTAL ITSELF! SEE WHAT HE SEES!
BUT THE CRYSTAL IS NOT PROBING HIS EMOTIONAL WEAKNESSES! ALL I SEE ARE SOME STRANGE PATTERNS!
OF COURSE! GEOMETRIC PATTERNS -- THAT'S ALL THE CRYSTAL PROBE CAN FIND IN MR. SPOCK'S HEAD! HA-HA!
SURE! VULCANS HAVE NO EMOTIONS! HA-HA-HA! I TOLD YA' THAT SPOCK IS PRACTICALLY A CRYSTAL HIMSELF! HA-HA-HA!!
THAT IS OF NO CONSEQUENCE! GUARDS HAVE BEEN DISPATCHED TO BRING HIM TO ME! HE WILL SHARE YOUR FATE THIS DAY!
TENSE MOMENTS LATER . . .
WHAT'S HAPPENED HERE, CAPTAIN? THIS GUARD SPOKE OF A KIDNAPPING -- AND PLANNED EXECUTION!
THAT CRYSTAL YOU WERE LOOKING AT IS AN INFANT FORM OF THESE PEOPLE! THEY THOUGHT WE CAME TO STEAL SOME! IT'S BEEN DONE BEFORE!

SWIFTLY, CAPTAIN KIRK FILLS THE VULCAN IN ON THE DETAILS . . .
--BUT WHY DON'T YOU JUST PROBE MY FRIENDS' MINDS AS THE CRYSTALS DID BEFORE! YOU'LL "SEE" THEIR INNOCENCE!
WE HAVEN'T SUCH POWER OF CLARITY! OUR INFANTS DO UNTIL THEY ARE OLD ENOUGH TO WALK!-THEN IT QUICKLY WEAKENS!
WE HAVE TALKED TOO LONG! YOU WILL NOW BE KILLED AND YOUR BODIES LEFT ON THE SURFACE AS A WARNING TO ---
MY PRESIDENT! THE SLOURDA ALARM!
KLANG! KLANG!
MARAUDING SLOURDA! GASP! BROKE THROUGH OUTER DEFENSES! CHOKE! HEADED FOR CITY CENTER!
THE HOME GUARD! ACTIVATE THEM AT ONCE! IT MUST BE DRIVEN OUT BEFORE OTHERS FOLLOW IT!
BUT BEFORE THE ARMED CITIZENRY CAN BE FULLY ALERTED . . . .
EEEYAAAAKKK! EEYYYAAAAKK!
AYYYEEEE!
FLAMING LAKES OF ORION! IT'S A DRAGON--ALMOST! ONLY ST. GEORGE HIMSELF NEVER SAW THE LIKES OF A DRAGON LIKE THAT!

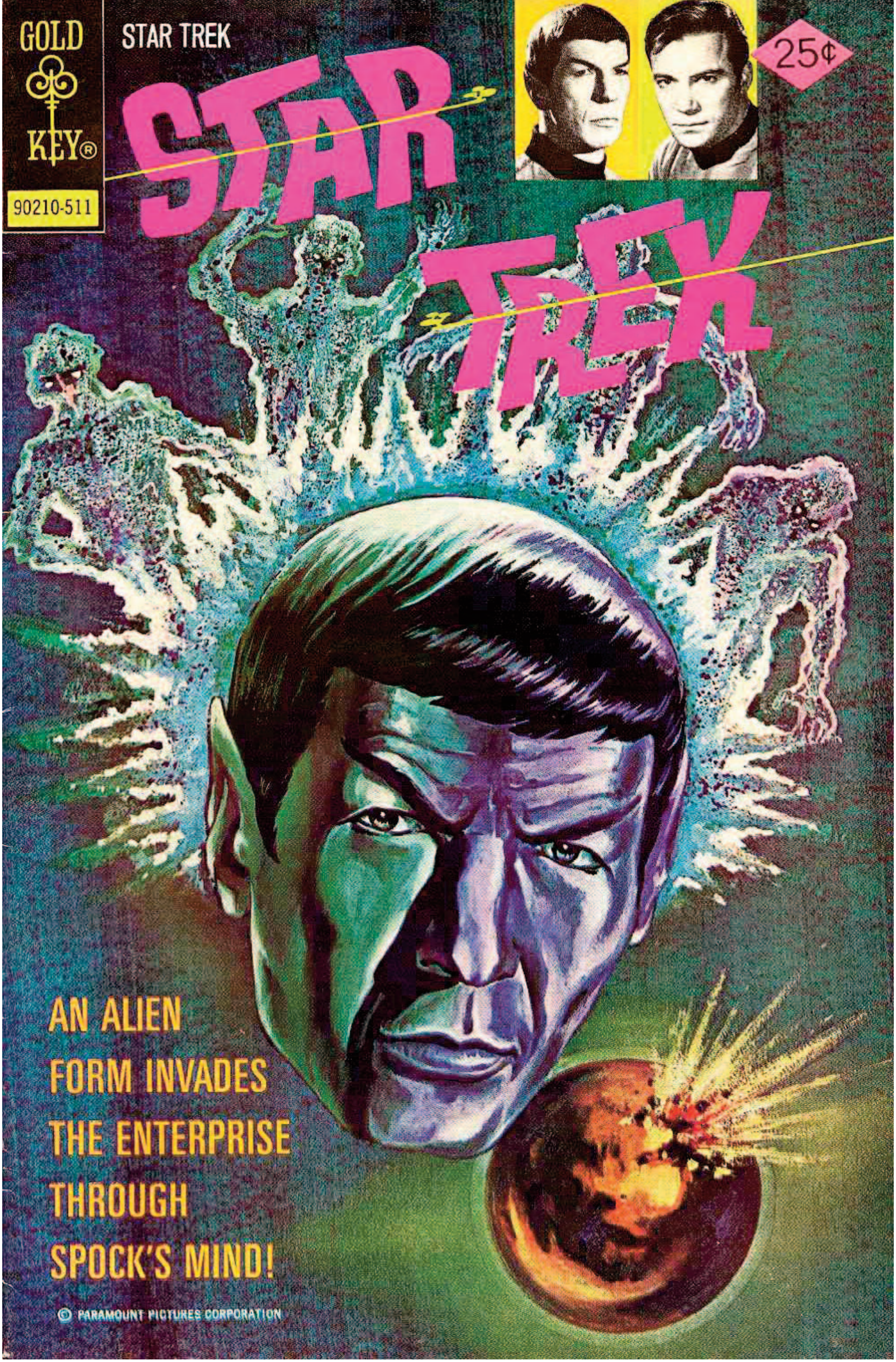


FINALLY, AS THE SHATTERED DEFENSE FORCES REGROUP . . . .
TOGETHER, NOW! LET THEM FLY WHEN I SAY ---
--FLY!
WHOOSH!
WHIISH!
THWUSH!
MORE ANNOYED THAN WOUNDED, THE CRYSTAL DRAGON TURNS AND LUMBERS BACK TO ITS DARK REGIONS!
HE'S GONE BUT THAT KIND OF ATTACK WON'T HOLD HIM OFF FOR LONG!
I DON'T UNDERSTAND WHY THEY DIDN'T FIRE THEIR NATURAL LASER BEAMS AT IT!
BECAUSE SUCH ENERGY BEAMS HAVE NOT AFFECTED THE SLOURDA FOR CENTURIES! OUR CRYSTALS COMPRESS THE LIGHT ENERGY BUT THE FOCUSING OF EACH BOLT IS DONE BY THOUGHT!
--AND, WITH TIME, THE SLOURDA LEARNED TO RESIST EVERY THOUGHT!
MOTIONING KIRK TO ONE SIDE, MR. SPOCK UNFOLDS A PLAN . . . .
THE SLOURDA HAS BUILT A KIND OF "NATURAL" IMMUNITY" TO THE THOUGHT BOLTS OF THE CRYSTAL PEOPLE! AS WE DO TO BACTERIA! BUT --
--WE OF OTHER WORLDS--WE'VE GOT A BILLION THOUGHTS THE SLOURDA NEVER ENCOUNTERED! "FOREIGN GERMS", THAT'S IT!
WE CAN PROVE OUR TRUE INTENTIONS NOW, MR. PRESIDENT! IF WE TEACH YOU HOW YOU CAN KILL THE SLOURDA ---
-- IF YOU COULD BUT GIVE US SUCH A WEAPON, WE WOULD FREE YOU! BUT IT IS THE SLOURDA WHO WILL DO THE KILLING, I FEAR!

HOW THE DEVIL DO YOU EXPECT TO PULL THIS OFF? THE CRYSTAL PEOPLE CAN CONCENTRATE LIGHT--BUT WE HAVE ONLY "ALIEN THOUGHTS"!
THE TRICK IS TO COMBINE THE TWO AT THE CRUCIAL MOMENT!
WE MUST USE ONE OF THE "BABIES" OF COURSE! IT HAS THE FULL POWER OF MIND-PROBING THAT THE ADULTS LOSE!
RIGHT! A THOUGHT CAST INTO THE CRYSTAL AT THE MOMENT THE SLOURDA ATTACKS WILL BE ---
--PROJECTED AS A KILLER BEAM!
QUICKLY, ONE OF THE "INFANTS" IS BROUGHT FROM THE SURFACE...
WE'LL TRACK THE BEAST TOGETHER! BUT YOU WILL DO THE THOUGHT-FOCUSING IN A WORLD THAT KNOWS NO SCIENCE--
-- THAT TECHNICOLOGICAL HEAD OF YOURS IS A VERITABLE ARSENAL!
THE GUARDS ESCORT THEM TO THE CITY LIMITS AND THEN THE PERILOUS JOURNEY INTO DARK REGIONS...
GRAB YOURSELF A GOOD THOUGHT, SPOCK! SOME REAL DOUBLE-DOMED KIND OF NOTION THAT WOULD EVEN KNOCK ME FOR A LOOP!
I'M AFRAID IT WILL HAVE TO BE A LOT MORE POWERFUL THAN THAT, MR. SCOTT!
SUDDENLY AND WITHOUT WARNING...
S-S-SPEAK OF THE SLITHERIN' DEVIL!
EEEEYAAAAAK!

EEEEY-YAAAK!
THAT WAS A CLOSE ONE!
GET GOIN' SPOCK!
FWOOOSH!
START THROWIN' SOME OF THAT EGG-HEAD THINKING AT THE BEAST!
I'VE CAST A THOUGHT INTO THE CRYSTAL --EINSTEIN'S FAMOUS RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN MATTER AND ENERGY!
BUT THE BABY ISN'T FIRING IT AT THE SLOURDA!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING, SPOCK? KEEP YOUR DISTANCE, MAN!
THAT WOULD BE USELESS! THE CRYSTAL WON'T FIRE UNTIL IT FEELS FULLY ENDANGERED! I MUST MOVE IT INTO DANGER!
AT SPOCK'S APPROACH, THE SLOURDA WHEELS INTO POSITION AND . . .
EEEYAAAAAK!
THEN, AT THE VERY SECOND THE CRYSTAL DRAGON ATTACKS . . .
AAAWW-AAHHH!
CRRRZZZAMM

THE FIRST BLOW SENDS THE GIANT BEAST REELING AND MR. SPOCK INSTANTLY PROJECTS ANOTHER THOUGHT-BOLT!
THE SIMPLEST OF CHEMICAL FORMULAS -- THAT FOR SULPHURIC ACID!
CRRRZZZZZZUMMMP!
H_2SO_4!
THE THEORY BEHIND ROCKET PROPULSION!
CRRRZZZZUMMMP!
"FOR EVERY ACTION, THERE IS AN EQUAL BUT OPPOSITE REACTION!"
AND SHORTLY . . .
YOU HAVE DONE WELL! BUT YOU SAID YOU WOULD SHOW US HOW TO DESTROY THE SLOURDA OURSELVES!
HOW CAN WE -- UNLESS YOU LEAVE YOUR MIND WITH US?
NOT HIS MIND BUT---
-- THESE SCIENCE TEXT BOOKS AND PAPERS, ENOUGH TO TEACH YOU THE BASIC PRINCIPLES THAT WILL SET YOU FREE FOREVER!
THANK YOU, FRIENDS! PERHAPS WE HAVE LIVED TOO LONG IN OUR SIMPLE PARADISE! GOOD LUCK!
-- BUT DIDN'T YOU FEEL A LITTLE PANG ABOUT ENDING THAT INNOCENT PARADISE OF THEIRS?
NOT AT ALL! I SEE NO CHARM IN A WORLD THAT TRIES TO DESTROY KILLER DRAGONS WITH BOLTS OF POETRY AND MUSIC, CAPTAIN!



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AN ALIEN FORM INVADES THE ENTERPRISE THROUGH SPOCK'S MIND!
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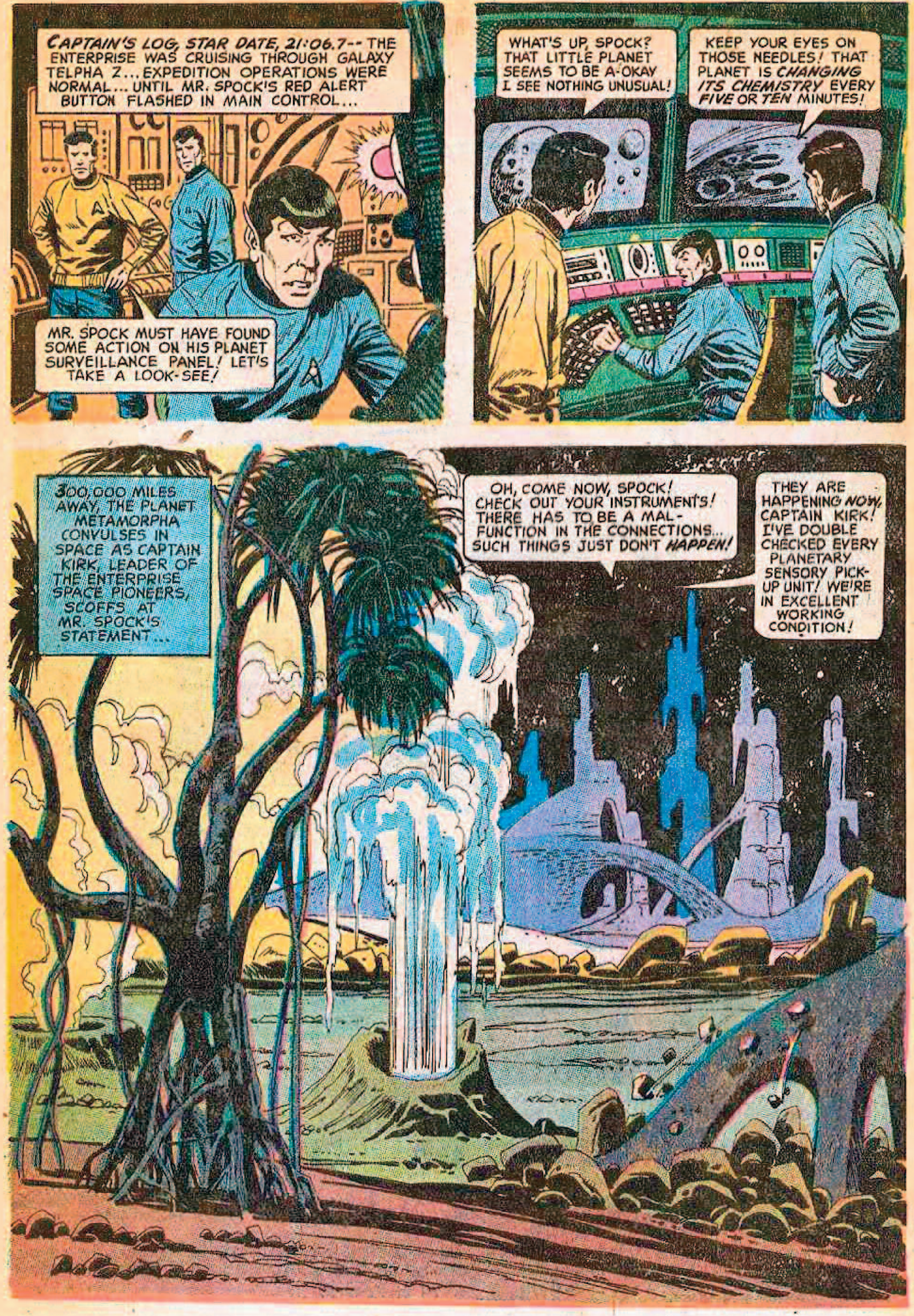


CAPTAIN'S LOG, STAR DATE, 21:06.7-- THE ENTERPRISE WAS CRUISING THROUGH GALAXY TELPHA Z... EXPEDITION OPERATIONS WERE NORMAL... UNTIL MR. SPOCK'S RED ALERT BUTTON FLASHED IN MAIN CONTROL...
MR. SPOCK MUST HAVE FOUND SOME ACTION ON HIS PLANET SURVEILLANCE PANEL! LET'S TAKE A LOOK-SEE!
WHAT'S UP, SPOCK? THAT LITTLE PLANET SEEMS TO BE A-OKAY I SEE NOTHING UNUSUAL!
KEEP YOUR EYES ON THOSE NEEDLES! THAT PLANET IS CHANGING ITS CHEMISTRY EVERY FIVE OR TEN MINUTES!
300,000 MILES AWAY, THE PLANET METAMORPHA CONVULSES IN SPACE AS CAPTAIN KIRK, LEADER OF THE ENTERPRISE SPACE PIONEERS, SCOFFS AT MR. SPOCK'S STATEMENT...
OH, COME NOW, SPOCK! CHECK OUT YOUR INSTRUMENTS! THERE HAS TO BE A MAL-FUNCTION IN THE CONNECTIONS... SUCH THINGS JUST DON'T HAPPEN!
THEY ARE HAPPENING NOW, CAPTAIN KIRK! I'VE DOUBLE CHECKED EVERY PLANETARY SENSORY PICK-UP UNIT! WE'RE IN EXCELLENT WORKING CONDITION!

A SCANT SECOND LATER...
OBSERVE! SECTIONS OF THE PLANET HAVE JUST CHANGED FROM ORGANIC TO INORGANIC REACTIONS ON THE PLANETARY CHEMISTRY CHART!
METALLIC MATTER CHANGING TO FOLIAGE WITHIN AN INSTANT! FANTASTIC! APOLOGIES, MR. SPOCK!
...I GUESS SUCH THINGS DO HAPPEN!
THERE IS ANOTHER VITAL FACTOR INVOLVED IN THE PHENOMENON, CAPTAIN! I HAVE DISCOVERED TRACES OF TIANTIANIUM AMID THE METALLIC RECORDINGS!
TIANTIANIUM... AN OUNCE OF WHICH CAN PROPEL A SPACESHIP FOR A YEAR...THE MOST PRECIOUS METAL IN ALL THE GALAXIES!
ROCKET POWER ON FULL! LET'S SAIL IN CLOSE AND GIVE THAT PALPITATING PLANET A TELESCOPIC ONCE-OVER!
SHORTLY, THE SIGHT SEEN THROUGH THE POWERFUL ENTERPRISE SCOPES IS AWESOME...
CASCADES OF WATER SUDDENLY BURSTING UP IN THE NORTH QUADRANT!
AND IN THE SOUTH... A FOREST SPROUTING UP FROM DESERT SAND!

LET'S MOVE! WE'LL TELEPORT DOWN THERE WITH TWO CREW MEMBERS AND LET SCOTTY HANDLE THE SHIP UPSTAIRS HERE!
DANGEROUS AS IT IS, THE PRESENCE OF THAT 71, METAL MAKES THE RISK WORTH TAKING!
SHORTLY, AS BEAMS ILLUMINATE THE TELEPORTATION CHAMBER...
THE UPHEAVALS ARE EXTENSIVE OVER THE ENTIRE PLANET, CAPTAIN --BUT THERE ARE PLENTY OF EMPTY AREAS WE MIGHT BE SAFE IN!
EXACTLY MY REASONING FOR THE MISSION, MR. SPOCK!
THE RAYS OF LIGHT GROW STRONGER ...GRADUALLY, THE BODIES BEGIN TO DISSOLVE...BLEND INTO THE ETHER OF TIME...
AND A SPLIT SECOND LATER, THE FIGURES MATERIALIZE ON THE PLANET METAMORPHA.. THE FANTASTIC, EVER-CHANGING WORLD IN DEEP SPACE...
OUR CALCULATIONS WERE APPARENTLY CORRECT! WE ARE IN A CALM AREA!
BUT SCARCELY ARE THE WORDS OUT OF MR. SPOCK'S MOUTH WHEN...
GR-GREAT GALLOPING GALAXIES-- LOOK!
SPECULATION ON TOUCHDOWN POINT INCORRECT--WE HAVE BECOME A CRITICAL AREA!

THE SNUB OF A ROCK MASS THRUSTS UPWARD FROM THE EARTH'S CRUST...
WH-WHAT IN BLAZING BLUE COMETS IS THAT?
I BELIEVE IT IS A PEAK, DR. McCOY... THE TOP OF A...
...MOUNTAIN!
SUDDENLY, THE CATACLYSMIC UPHEAVAL CEASES AND...
LOOK THERE... THE MOUNTAIN'S UPHEAVAL DISLODGED WHAT APPEARS TO BE MAN-MADE OBJECTS!
YES, CAPTAIN... APPARENTLY RUINS FROM A LONG-DEAD ALIEN CIVILIZATION!
NO WONDER THEY ARE LONG DEAD... TRYING TO EXIST ON THIS UNSTABLE PLANET!
ABRUPTLY, A STRANGE SOUND FILLS THE AIR...
BLOBS OF LIGHT EMERGING FROM THE RUINS!

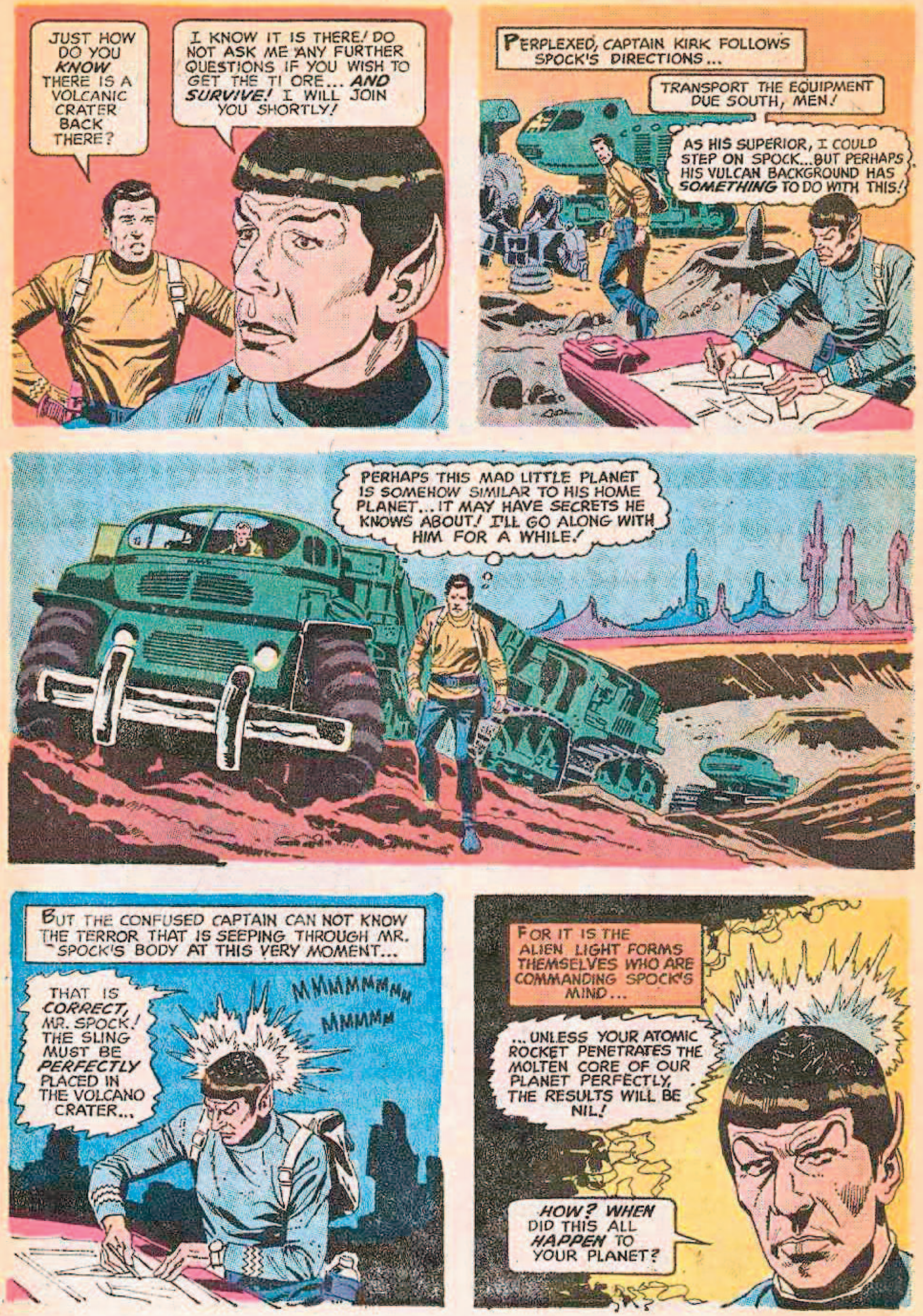
THE LIGHT FORMS SWIRL TOWARD THE GROUP... LIKE INTELLIGENCE-DIRECTED THINGS THEY HOME IN ON KIRK AND ONE OF THE CREW...
TH-THEY'RE ATTACKING!
I'LL BLAST THEM WITH MY PHASER!
BUT THE BIZARRE ILLUMINATED FORMS, IMMUNE TO THE PHASER RAY, BOUNCE OFF OF THE PAIR...
THE PHASER SHOTS DIDN'T AFFECT THEM... BUT THEY'RE RETREATING FROM THE CAPTAIN AND CREWMAN JOHNSON! STRANGE...?
ZAP! ZAP!
THE ALIEN BLOBS OF LIGHT REGROUP ... AND AGAIN ATTACK...
BUT ONCE AGAIN, THE SIX GLOWING FORMS SHY AWAY...
THEY'RE LEAVING McCOY...NOW THEY'RE HEADING FOR SPOCK! WHAT ARE THEY AFTER? WHAT CAN THEY WANT?

LIKE A CLUSTER OF GLOWING, BODYLESS INSECTS, THE FORMS DESCEND UPON MR. SPOCK... ROUND AND ROUND THEY SWIRL...
...BUT I SEEM TO BE FRIGHTENING THEM OFF!
TH-THERE IS NO BODY TO THEM...
THEN...
THEY'RE GONE!
VANISHED! APPARENTLY DISSIPATED INTO THE ALIEN ATMOSPHERE!
(WHEW!) WELL, THAT'S THAT! NOW LET'S GET ON WITH LOCATING THAT 71 ORE AND SHOVE OFF BEFORE THIS PLANET DOES ANOTHER FLIP-FLOP!
FOR AN HOUR, THE GROUP COVERS THE TERRAIN WITH DELICATE SPACE-ORE COUNTERS...
COME ON, MR. SPOCK--GIVE US A HAND! WE WANT TO GET THIS JOB OVER FAST!
I AM MAKING AN ANALYSIS OF THE EARTH CHEMISTRY, CAPTAIN KIRK!

SUDDENLY, AS THE DESPERATE SEARCH FOR THE RARE ORE CONTINUES...
AN-ANOTHER PLANETARY UPHEAVAL! BRACE YOURSELVES, MEN! THERE'S NO TELLING WHAT'S COMING NOW!
THEN, A GEYSER OF WATER SPEWS INTO THE AIR...
WATER! THE ARID AREA IS TURNING INTO WATER!
MAKE FOR THE CLIFFSIDE WITH SPOCK! MOVE IT!
BUT THE ONRUSH OF WATER IS TOO RAPID... SWIRLING RAPIDS ENTRAP THE GROUP...
S-SWIM!.. FIGHT THE CURRENT... WE'VE GOT TO REACH THE LEDGE!
REMAIN CALM, MY FRIENDS! YOU WILL BE SAVED!

CAPTAIN KIRK--- CLUTCH THE ROPE! INSTRUCT THE OTHERS TO MAKE A LIFE-CHAIN OF THEIR BODIES BY CLUTCHING YOURS!
G-GOOD THINKING! YOU HEARD HIM, MEN! GRAB HOLD OF ME!
THE LIFE-CHAIN IS FORMED...
HOLD ON TIGHT! I WILL PULL YOU FROM THE WATERS!
GREAT COMETS! WH-WHERE IS SPOCK GETTING THE STRENGTH? H-HE'S PULLING US ALL UP!
FINALLY, ATOP THE LEDGE...
HOW IN THUNDER DID YOU MANAGE IT, MR. SPOCK? --TOGETHER WE WEIGHED NEARLY EIGHT HUNDRED POUNDS!
EMERGENCY MEASURES OFTEN GIVE ONE EXTRA STRENGTH, CAPTAIN KIRK-- THE ADRENALIN WAS POURING THROUGH MY BODY RAPIDLY!
BUT THERE IS NO TIME FOR IDLE TALK! I HAVE CALCULATED A MEANS TO EXTRACT THE 7I ORE...BUT FIRST WE MUST REGULATE THE PLANET--BRING IT BACK TO NORMAL!
BRING IT BACK TO NORMAL?

PRECISELY! I HAVE WORKED OUT A THEORY THAT WILL SUCCEED! THESE ARE THE MATERIALS I WILL NEED TELEPORTED DOWN FROM THE ENTERPRISE!
WHAT'S WRONG WITH SPOCK... HE ACTED DAZED ...ALMOST AS IF HE WERE MOVING MECHANICALLY!
BUT PERHAPS IT'S JUST BECAUSE HE'S CONCENTRATING SO INTENSELY ON OUR PROBLEM!
ALL RIGHT! SHOOT, MR. SPOCK!
ONE ATOMIC ROCKET... FOUR STEEL GIRDERS...
AND WHEN THE MATERIALS HAVE BEEN TELEPORTED DOWN...
DR. McCOY! DO YOU UNDERSTAND ALL THIS? DOES MR. SPOCK REALLY KNOW WHAT HE'S DOING?
HE ALWAYS HAS BEFORE, JOHNSON! BUT... I ADMIT HE'S GOT ME A BIT PUZZLED THIS TIME!
MR. SPOCK! JUST WHAT IS THIS BLUEPRINT YOU ARE DRAFTING?
DO NOT DISTURB ME, CAPTAIN!
HAVE THE MEN TRANSPORT THE ROCKET, LUMBER AND PIPING TO THE VOLCANO CRATER TWO MILES SOUTH!
HOLD UP, SPOCK!



JUST HOW DO YOU KNOW THERE IS A VOLCANIC CRATER BACK THERE?
I KNOW IT IS THERE! DO NOT ASK ME ANY FURTHER QUESTIONS IF YOU WISH TO GET THE TI ORE... AND SURVIVE! I WILL JOIN YOU SHORTLY!
PERPLEXED, CAPTAIN KIRK FOLLOWS SPOCK'S DIRECTIONS...
TRANSPORT THE EQUIPMENT DUE SOUTH, MEN!
AS HIS SUPERIOR, I COULD STEP ON SPOCK...BUT PERHAPS HIS VULCAN BACKGROUND HAS SOMETHING TO DO WITH THIS!
PERHAPS THIS MAD LITTLE PLANET IS SOMEHOW SIMILAR TO HIS HOME PLANET... IT MAY HAVE SECRETS HE KNOWS ABOUT! I'LL GO ALONG WITH HIM FOR A WHILE!
BUT THE CONFUSED CAPTAIN CAN NOT KNOW THE TERROR THAT IS SEEPING THROUGH MR. SPOCK'S BODY AT THIS VERY MOMENT...
THAT IS CORRECT, MR. SPOCK! THE SLING MUST BE PERFECTLY PLACED IN THE VOLCANO CRATER...
MMMMMMMMM
MMMMM
FOR IT IS THE ALIEN LIGHT FORMS THEMSELVES WHO ARE COMMANDING SPOCK'S MIND...
...UNLESS YOUR ATOMIC ROCKET PENETRATES THE MOLTEN CORE OF OUR PLANET PERFECTLY, THE RESULTS WILL BE NIL!
HOW? WHEN DID THIS ALL HAPPEN TO YOUR PLANET?

THE THOUGHT WAVES OF THE SIX LIGHT FORMS FILL SPOCK'S BRAIN... REVEALING THEIR SECRETS TO HIM...
IT OCCURRED MANY SUN CENTURIES AGO! A GIANT METEORITE PIERCED OUR PLANET IN ITS ONE WEAK AREA...WHERE THE STRUCTURE WAS THIN...
IT WENT THROUGH OUR CRUST, MANTLE, OUTER CORE AND INTO THE MOLTEN MASS OF OUR INNER CORE!
THE MOLECULES OF THE CORE'S MASS WERE CHANGED BY THE CHEMICALS OF THE METEORITE!
"AS THE CHEMICAL REACTION REACHED THE SURFACE THESE TERRIBLE CHANGES BEGAN TO OCCUR... AND OUR BODIES BEGAN TO VAPORIZE..."
OUR PLANET IS DOOMED ...TREES SPROUTING UP AMID OUR WATERS WITHIN MINUTES... MOUNTAINS RISING AND FALLING!
AND NOW WE OURSELVES ARE VAPORIZING FROM THE POWER OF THAT ACCURSED METEORITE!
WE NEEDED PHYSICAL FORM TO UNDO THE DAMAGE DONE... AND YOUR VULCAN BODY WAS THE ONLY ONE WE COULD ENTER DUE TO ITS CHEMICAL MAKE-UP!
I UNDERSTAND..!

THE EVOLUTIONARY PROCESSES OF YOUR PLANET WERE SPEEDED UP TRILLIONS OF TIMES OVER! BUT, SHOULD WE CORRECT THE PROBLEM, WILL YOU REVERT TO YOUR NORMAL SELVES?
YES!
SPOCK--TALKING TO HIMSELF! WHAT IN THUNDER! WONDER IF HE'S GOT SPACE FATIGUE!
SPOCK!
BUT AS CAPTAIN KIRK SPEAKS, SPOCK HOLDS UP HIS HAND...
SILENCE... PLEASE, CAPTAIN!
THE CHEMICALS YOU NEED FOR THE ROCKET WE MANAGED TO PUT TOGETHER BEFORE WE TOTALLY VANISHED INTO LIGHT FORMS! THEY ARE HIDDEN AT THIS LOCATION...
WHAT THE DEVIL IS GOING ON, SPOCK? THIS AIR OF MYSTERY YOU'RE PUTTING ON IS GETTING ON MY NERVES! EVERYTHING IS READY AT THE CRATER!
IT IS ALL RIGHT! I...WAS JUST MAKING A CALCULATION! LET US GO TO THE PENETRATION SITE!
MY ENGINEERING PLANS ARE COMPLETE! I HAVE BUT ONE MORE DETAIL TO COVER!

AND WHEN THE VOLCANIC CRATER IS REACHED...
JOIN THE MEN, PLEASE! I WILL BE WITH YOU IN MOMENTS!
TO YOUR LEFT SLIGHTLY, MR. SPOCK!
THERE IS THE CHEMICAL CONTAINER! IT WILL NEUTRALIZE THE METEORITE MATTER THAT CONTAMINATED OUR MOLTEN INNER CORE! PLACE IT IN YOUR ATOMIC ROCKET!
SPOCK RETURNS TO THE ROCKET SITE... THE CHEMICALS ARE PLACED IN THE ROCKET'S HEAD...
THOSE CHEMICALS! WHERE DID YOU GET THEM, SPOCK?
I HAD THEM IN AN EMERGENCY KIT! COME! PREPARE TO HOIST THE ROCKET OUT INTO THE EXACT CENTER OF THE VOLCANIC CRATER BEFORE BLASTING IT DOWNWARD!
BUT SUDDENLY AS THE ROCKET IS PLAYED OUT ON THE PULLEY...
GR-GREAT FIRES OF SATURN! I-IT'S HAPPENING AGAIN... THE PLANETARY METAMORPHOSIS IS HITTING US HERE!

STAR TREK - THE PERIL OF PLANET QUICK CHANGE
PART II - THE SINISTER GUEST
PREPARING TO BLAST A CHEMICALLY-FILLED ATOMIC ROCKET INTO THE MOLTEN CORE OF THE EVER CHANGING PLANET METAMORPHA, THE LAUNCHING POINT ON A VOLCANIC CRATER SUDDENLY, CONVULSES, STAGGERING THE ENTERPRISE CREW...
W-WE'VE HAD IT, SPOCK! WHATEVER YOUR THEORY WAS OF STILLING THIS NIGHTMARISH PLANET IS GONE WITH THE ALIEN WIND...
...I-IF WE GET OUT OF THIS WITH OUR NECKS I'M ORDERING AN IMMEDIATE TELEPORTATION BACK TO SHIP!
PLEASE ... BE CALM, CAPTAIN KIRK!
THEN ... A TELEPATHIC VOICE RESOUNDS IN SPOCK'S BRAIN ...
STAND UP AND TELL YOUR PEOPLE TO FOLLOW YOU! HURRY, MR. SPOCK!
VERY WELL!
CAPTAIN...MEN! FOLLOW ME! QUICKLY!

AND AS SPOCK LEADS THE CREW AROUND A TURN IN THE CRATER WALL...
WE WILL BE SAFE IN HERE, GENTLEMEN!
WHAT KIND OF A GALAXY GAMBIT HAS SPOCK GOT? HE SEEMS TO KNOW THIS PLANET LIKE THE BACK OF HIS VULCAN HAND!
QUICKLY, THE INSCRUTABLE VULCAN MAKES A CALCULATION...
THE DISTURBANCE HAS MOVED THE OPENING OF THE VOLCANIC PIT!! WE MUST REALIGN FOR ROCKET ENTRY!
MOMENTS LATER...
THE UPHEAVALS HAVE SUBSIDED! WE CAN CONTINUE PROJECT PLANET STILL!
NOW HE'S GOT A CODE NAME FOR THE OPERATION!!
WITHDRAW THE ROCKET ON IT'S LINE... TWO FEET, FOUR INCHES...
ROGER, MR. SPOCK!
SPOCK MOVES TO THE CONTROL PANEL... HIS FINGER REACHES OUT TO PRESS THE BUTTON THAT MEANS LIFE OR DEATH FOR THE PLANET METAMORPHA...

UP ABOVE, THE CHEMICAL SPRAY GEYSERS GUSHES OUT...
GREAT RINGS OF SATURN! W-WE'VE HIT SOMETHING DOWN THERE!
WE HAVE SUCCEEDED, CAPTAIN KIRK--WE HAVE PUNCTURED THE DEADLY HEART OF PLANET METAMORPHA!
LIKE SOME GIGANTIC CLOUD, THE CHEMICAL-FILLED MIST REGENERATES ITSELF AGAIN AND AGAIN... IT MUSHROOMS...
THE WONDER HAS COME TO BE, MR. SPOCK! WITHIN ONE SOLAR DAY OUR MEDICAL MIST WILL HAVE RETURNED OUR WORLD TO NORMAL! WE THANK YOU!
SUDDENLY, THE CREW OF THE ENTERPRISE GAPE AT MR. SPOCK WIDE-EYED...
GR-GREAT GLORY TO BE! TH-THE LIGHT FORMS ...THEY'RE SWIRLING OUT OF MR. SPOCK'S HEAD!
AND THEY'RE MATERIALIZING INTO SOME KIND OF ALIEN CREATURES!
SPOCK! WHAT'S HAPPENED..? WHAT HAVE THEY DONE TO YOU?
AWESTRUCK, THE SPACE PIONEERS WATCH AS SECOND BY SECOND, THE INCREDIBLE OCCURS...
YOUR BRILLIANT VULCAN COLLEAGUE WAS OUR HOST, CAPTAIN KIRK! THROUGH HIS BODY WE WERE ABLE TO SAVE OUR WORLD!
AND NOW WE SHALL MAKE REPAYMENT BY GIVING YOU THE VITAL ORE YOU SEEK! MY NAME IS ZARMAN!

THEN AS THE ALIEN SPEAKS, A FANTASTIC SIGHT CAPTURES THE GROUP...
ZARMAN! LOOK THERE, BEHIND YOU!
AH, YES...
...IT IS OUR TOWN OF HIDENNA! AS WE WERE VAPORIZED BY THE POISONED METEORITE, SO IT WAS, TOO! AND NOW AS OUR CHEMICAL ANTIDOTE MIST HAS MATERIALIZED US, HIDENNA ALSO IS RETURNING!
EVEN THE FAMED SPACE PIONEERS ARE DAZED WITH WONDER AT THE REBIRTH OF A TOWN FROM NOTHINGNESS...
THIS WAS MY HOME... AND THE HOME OF MY FRIENDS! ALL OVER OUR PLANET, ONE BY ONE, OTHER TOWNS ARE ALSO RISING!
FANTASTIC, ZARMAN! BUT MR. SPOCK SAID WE HAD AN AGREEMENT IF WE SUCCEEDED IN HELPING YOU!
YES! THE TIANTIANIUM ORE MR. SPOCK'S MIND REVEALED TO US WAS SO VITAL TO YOUR GALAXY! I WILL SHOW YOU THE NEAREST DEPOSIT! COME!

BUT AS ZARMAN LEADS THEM TO A NEARBY AREA...
DIG THERE! BUT PLEASE...EXTRACT BUT TWO HUNDRED GALAXY POUNDS OF THE ORE! WE NEED MUCH OF IT HERE ON METAMORPHA TO KEEP OUR PLANET VITALIZED!
YES...YES! THAT WILL BE SUFFICIENT!
MR. SPOCK! GIVE US A HAND!
NO... I-I CAN NOT, CAPTAIN... I... AM TOO WEAKENED FROM MY ORDEAL!
CERTAINLY! I UNDERSTAND! REST YOURSELF, SPOCK!
MY HEAD... SOMETHING IS NOT CORRECT... MY MIND IS STILL NOT ... CLEAR... CONCISE IN THOUGHT!
SUDDENLY, A FRIGHTENING THOUGHT ENLIGHTENS SPOCK'S CLOUDY EYES...
WAIT! SIX LIGHT FORMS ENTERED MY BODY...YES...YES, SIX ENTERED... BUT ONLY FIVE LEFT!
THAT IS TRUE, MR. SPOCK!
I AM STILL WITHIN YOUR BODY...
...YOUR MIND...
...YES, WITHIN YOUR VERY SOUL, MR. SPOCK!
BUT WHY... WHY? WHO ARE YOU? WHY DO YOU BETRAY US SO?

I DO NOT BETRAY YOU, SIR! I MERELY SEEK ESCAPE, ADVENTURE... KNOWLEDGE OF THE OTHER WORLDS, THE MANY GALAXIES YOU HAVE KNOWN AND TRAVELED THROUGH! MY NAME... IT IS TEXTRA!
NO...NO!
THROUGH YOUR EYES, YOUR BODY, I WILL ROAM THE DEEP REACHES OF SPACE WITH YOU... SEE WONDERS MY FOOL PEOPLES HAVE NEVER DARED DREAM OF!
IT...SHALL NOT BE, TEXTRA!
NOTHING! NO ONE SHALL POSSESS ME! I...I SHALL DRIVE YOU FROM MY BEING LIKE SOME LOATHSOME PLAGUE!
IT IS HOPELESS, MR. SPOCK! WE ARE INTERTWINED... FOREVER!
CITIZEN LOOK! THE ALIEN IS CRAZED! PERHAPS THE ATMOSPHERE HERE HAS STUNNED HIS MIND!

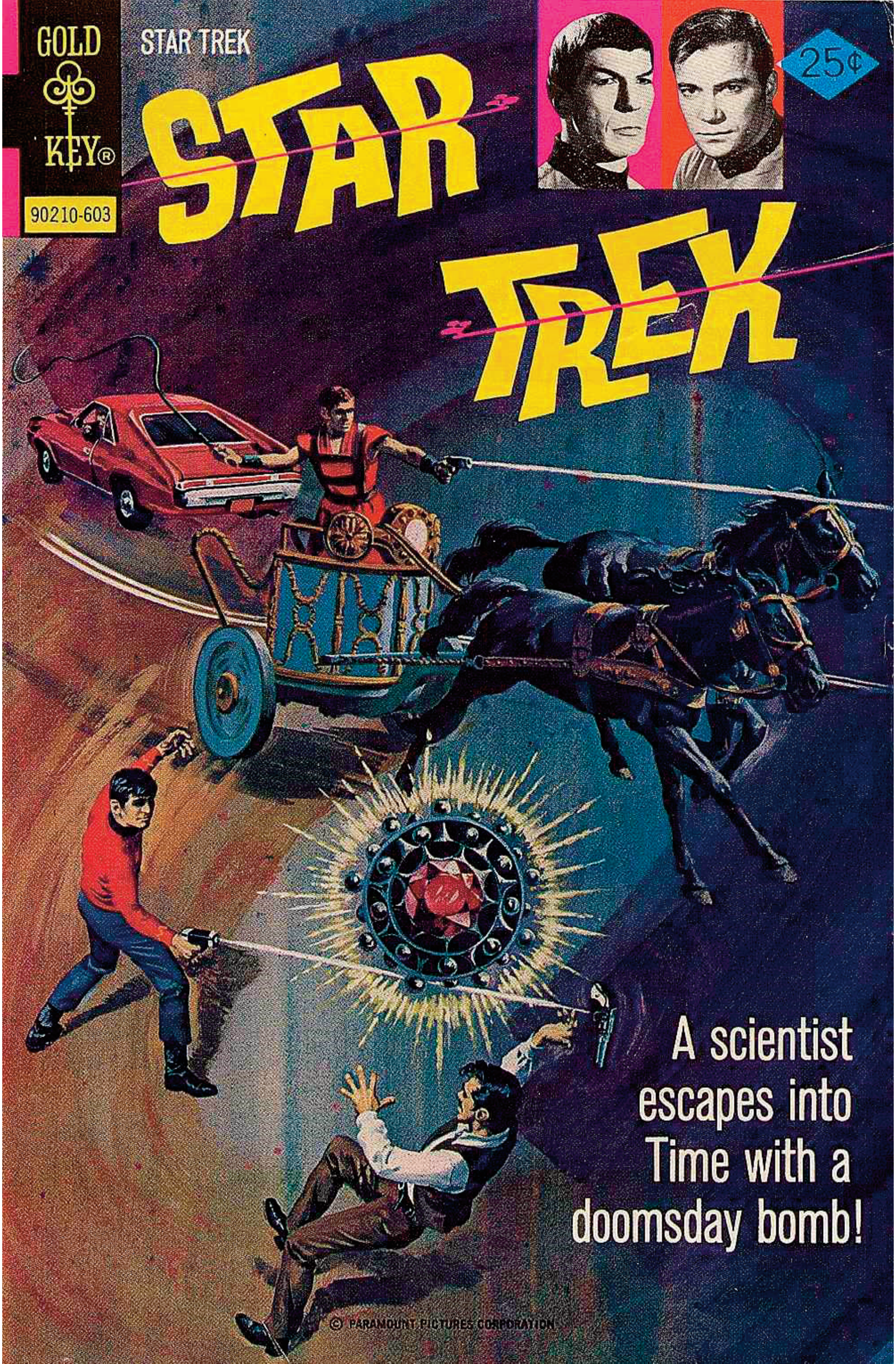
WHILE AT THE ORE SITE...
THAT DOES IT... TWO HUNDRED GALAXY POUNDS! THANK YOU, ZARMAN!
ALL RIGHT, MEN... LET'S GO!
SAY! WHERE IN BLUE THUNDER IS MR. SPOCK?
THERE HE IS, CAPTAIN! HE MUST HAVE BEEN INVESTIGATING THE MATERIALIZED TOWN!
AND AS THEY JOIN THE VULCAN GENIUS, HIS LIPS FRAME WORDS... HIS MIND TRIES TO REVEAL SOMETHING TO CAPTAIN KIRK...
CA-CAPTAIN! THERE IS GREAT DANGER... Y-YOU MUST LISTEN TO ME...!
YES! WHAT IS IT, SPOCK?
BUT THE POWER OF THE SPIRIT FORM WITHIN HIM IS TOO GREAT...
I AM STRONGER THAN YOU, SPOCK! YOU CANNOT REVEAL MY PRESENCE WITHIN YOU! YOU CAN NOT!
CA-CAPTAIN... I...I...A...A POWER...S-SOMETHING WRONG..!
BONES! RADIO SCOTTY TO BEAM US ABOARD FAST... SPOCK'S IN SHOCK! THE REACTION OF THE ALIEN LIGHT CREATURES WITHIN HIM, NO DOUBT!
WE REGRET UPSETTING YOUR FRIEND, CAPTAIN!

AND AS THE CREW BEGINS TO DEMATERIALIZE...
THOSE ARE THE RISKS OF OUR SPACE RESEARCH! A DAY IN THE SHIP'S HOSPITAL WILL FIX HIM UP! GOODBYE, ZARMAN!
YOU SEE... I HAVE WON, MR. SPOCK! WE GO TOGETHER!
AND MOMENTS LATER, AS THEIR BODIES TAKE FORM IN THE TELEPORTATION CHAMBER OF THE ENTERPRISE...
MUST DO SOMETHING... SOMETHING!
AS THEY STEP FROM THE CHAMBER, SPOCK DESPERATELY CLUTCHES KIRK'S SHOULDER... FIGHTING AGAINST THE ALIEN MENTAL FORCE WITHIN HIM...
WHAT IS IT, SPOCK?
COME... WITH ME...!
LIKE A MAN SEIZED WITH AN ELECTRICAL CHARGE, SPOCK'S SHAKING HAND CLUTCHES A PEN...
PERHAPS... I CAN... WRITE... THE WARNING...
YOU CAN NOT, SPOCK! MY WILL IS EQUAL TO YOURS!
POOR DEVIL! HE'S TRYING TO WRITE ME SOMETHING!
THEN, AS THE ALIEN MENTAL POWER BLOCKS OFF SPOCK'S MENTAL PROCESSES...
CAPTAIN! THIS MAN CAN'T EVEN HOLD A PEN! I'M TAKING OVER... HE'S GOING DOWN TO SICK BAY AT ONCE!
SWISH!

LISTEN... INSIDE OF ME... SOMETHING!
QUIET, SPOCK!
STEADY, OLD FRIEND... EASY DOES IT!
THEN...
THIS WILL CALM YOU DOWN, OLD FELLER!
BUT IT WILL NOT HELP TO RID YOURSELF OF ME, MR. SPOCK! NO INDEED!
THEN IN SICK BAY, SPOCK IS LEFT ALONE TO BATTLE HIS POWERFUL VULCAN MIND AGAINST THAT OF THE ALIEN PARASITE WITHIN HIM...
TH-THERE MUST BE A WAY... SOME MEANS TO SPEW YOU FROM ME!
THERE IS NO WAY MR. SPOCK! ACCEPT YOUR FATE... AND ENJOY YOUR TRAVELS THROUGH SPACE WITH ME!
SUDDENLY, SPOCK'S WHIRLING MIND SEIZES UPON A THOUGHT...
WHAT ARE YOU THINKING OF, SPOCK?
YES... YES, IT CAN BE DONE!
HIS MIND TORN BETWEEN TWO FORCES, HE STAGGERS FROM SICK BAY...
MU-MUSTN'T THINK... CAN'T LET TEXTRA KNOW..!
LET TEXTRA KNOW WHAT, VULCAN?
SAY, NOW, MR. SPOCK...

YOU'RE AN ILL MAN, YOU ARE, SIR! BEST YOU LET ME HELP YOU BACK TO SICK BAY!
OOOF!
YOU MUST LET ME GO!
DESPERATELY RESISTING THE FORCE WITHIN HIM, SPOCK STAGGERS LIKE A MAN WITH INVISIVIBLE CHAINS DOWN THE CORRIDOR...
JUST KEEP MYSELF MOVING... MOVING...
SPOCK! YOU ARE HEADING FOR THE TELEPORTATION CHAMBER! WHY? THINK! THINK OF WHAT YOU PLAN SO THAT I CAN KNOW!
WITHIN THE CHAMBER, THE VULCAN LOCKS THE DOOR AND...
WHA..? SPOCK HAS GONE INTO THE TELEPORTATION CHAMBER!
GREAT SATELLITES! HE MUST BE GOING TO TELEPORT HIMSELF BACK TO METAMORPHA!
H-HE'S ACTIVATED THE TELEPORTATION LIGHTS! B-BUT LOOK—HE'S ALSO THROWN OPEN THE RETURN TELEPORTATION SWITCH!
JIM, HE'LL BE SUBJECTED TO OPPOSING FORCES! THEY'LL TEAR HIS MOLECULAR STRUCTURE APART!

WITH ONE TELEPORTATION FORCE SEEKING TO DIMINISH HIM, THE OTHER TO MATERIALIZE HIM, SPOCK'S BODY WRITHES BETWEEN GREAT FORCES...
MY...BODY IS CAUGHT IN A NEUTRAL ZONE...
...BUT YOU HAVE NO BODY, TEXTRA...
STOP! M-MY SPIRIT FORM IS BEING TORN LOOSE!
ABRUPTLY, A LIGHT FORM IS RIPPED BY THE FORCES FROM SPOCK'S BODY...
AN-ANOTHER LIGHT FORM ...IT WAS STILL WITHIN HIM! IT'S MATERIALIZING!
SPOCK'S COLLAPSED!
AND THE ALIEN... HE'S VAPORIZING! TURN OFF THE MACHINE, CAPTAIN, QUICKLY!
AND WHEN SPOCK HAS BEEN REVIVED TO TELL HIS STORY...
(WHEW!) SO THAT TEXTRA WAS PLANNING TO USE YOU AS A HOST FOREVER!
YES, CAPTAIN! I'M GLAD I THOUGHT OF NEUTRALIZING THE TELEPORTATION MACHINE! IT MADE MY BODY SO UNSTABLE THERE WAS NOTHING FOR TEXTRA TO HANG ONTO!
I ALWAYS KNEW THERE WAS SOMETHING UNSTABLE ABOUT YOU VULCANS!
DR. McCOY, IT SEEMS TO ME YOU EARTHMEN CAN ACHIEVE INSTABILITY EVEN WITHOUT A MACHINE!


GOLD KEY
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STAR TREK
STAR TREK
25¢
A scientist escapes into Time with a doomsday bomb!
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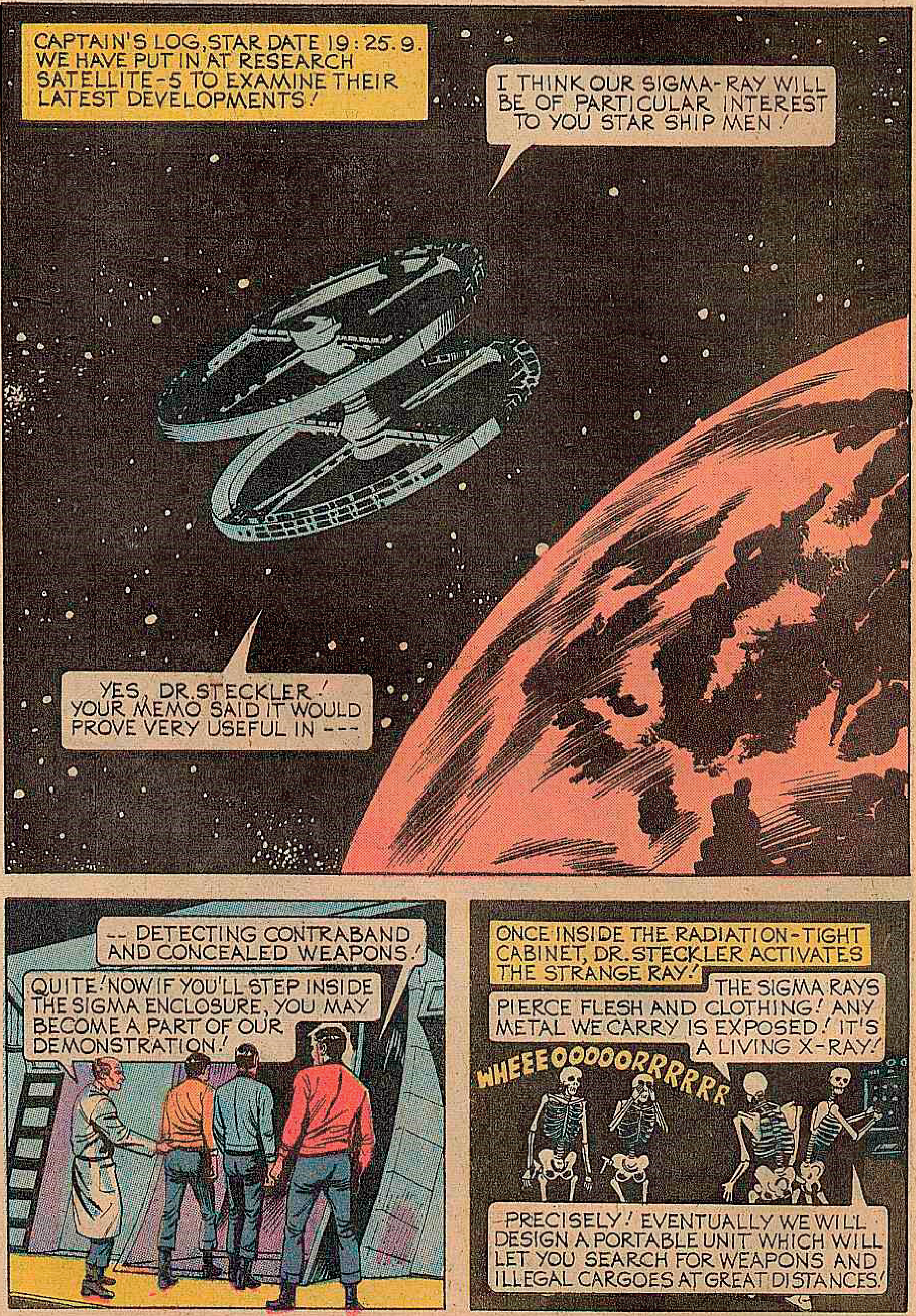
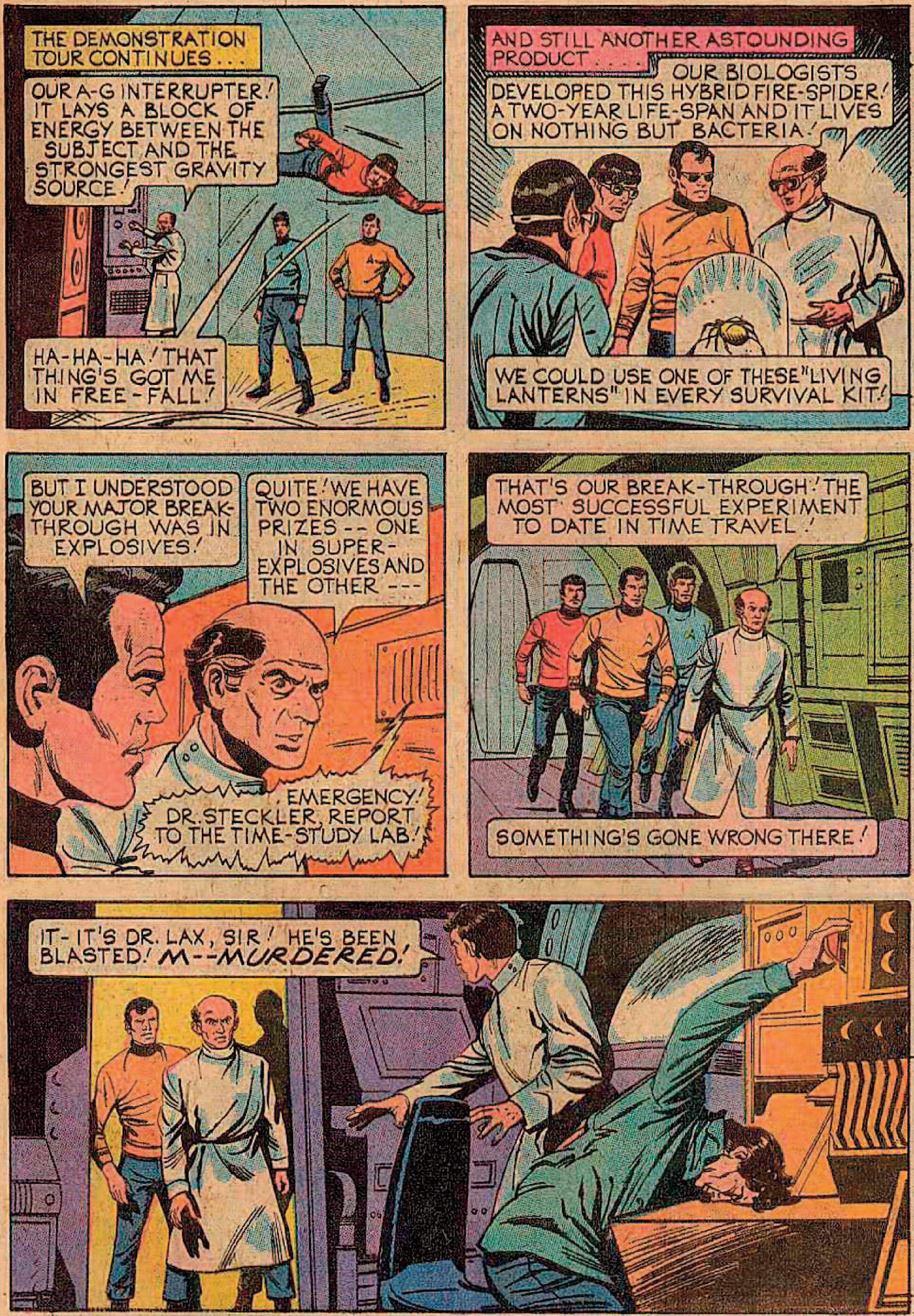


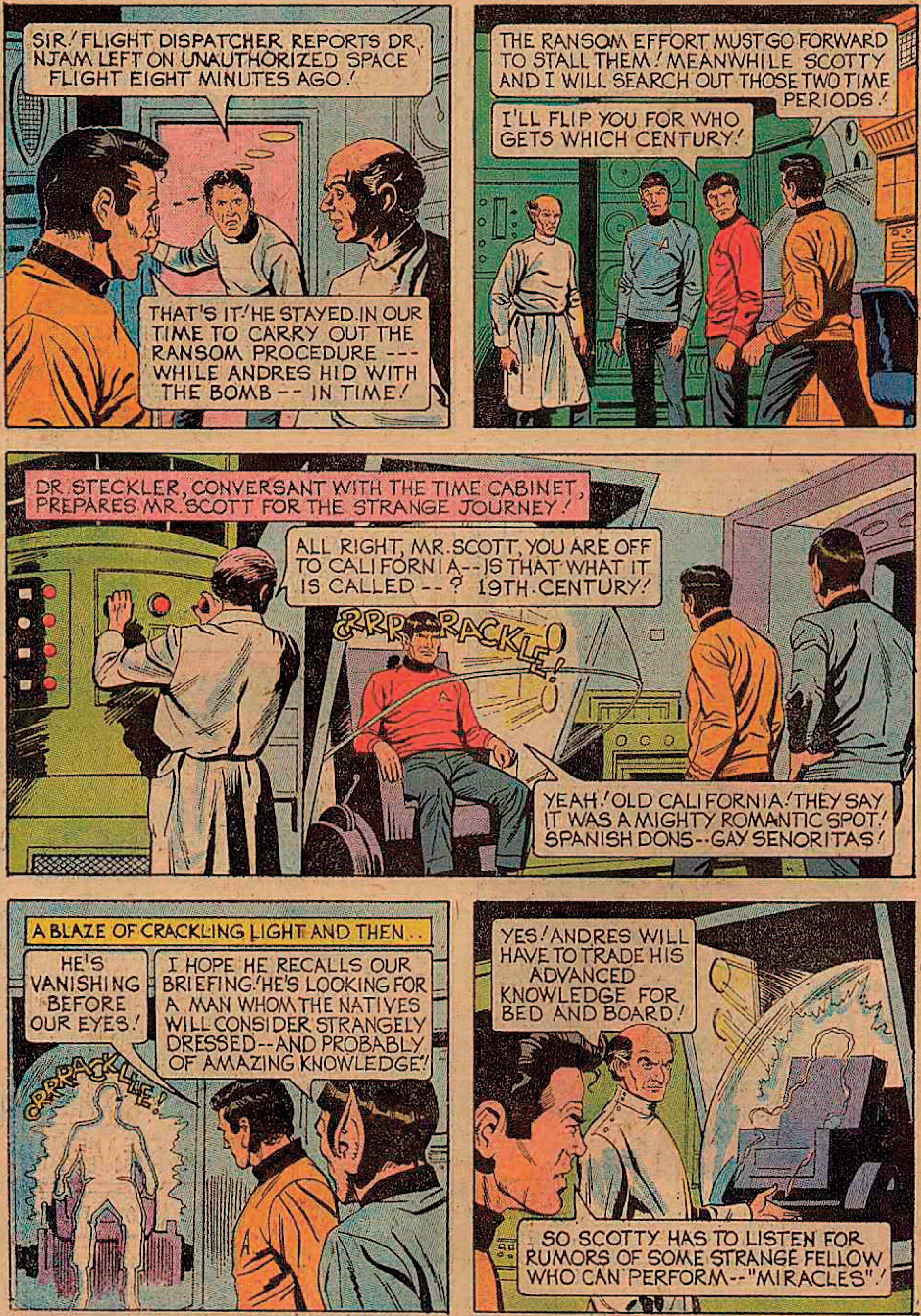
CAPTAIN'S LOG, STAR DATE 19:25.9. WE HAVE PUT IN AT RESEARCH SATELLITE-5 TO EXAMINE THEIR LATEST DEVELOPMENTS!
I THINK OUR SIGMA-RAY WILL BE OF PARTICULAR INTEREST TO YOU STAR SHIP MEN!
YES, DR. STECKLER! YOUR MEMO SAID IT WOULD PROVE VERY USEFUL IN ---
-- DETECTING CONTRABAND AND CONCEALED WEAPONS!
QUITE! NOW IF YOU'LL STEP INSIDE THE SIGMA ENCLOSURE, YOU MAY BECOME A PART OF OUR DEMONSTRATION!
ONCE INSIDE THE RADIATION-TIGHT CABINET, DR. STECKLER ACTIVATES THE STRANGE RAY!
THE SIGMA RAYS PIERCE FLESH AND CLOTHING! ANY METAL WE CARRY IS EXPOSED! IT'S A LIVING X-RAY!
WHEEEOOOOORRRRR
PRECISELY! EVENTUALLY WE WILL DESIGN A PORTABLE UNIT WHICH WILL LET YOU SEARCH FOR WEAPONS AND ILLEGAL CARGOES AT GREAT DISTANCES!

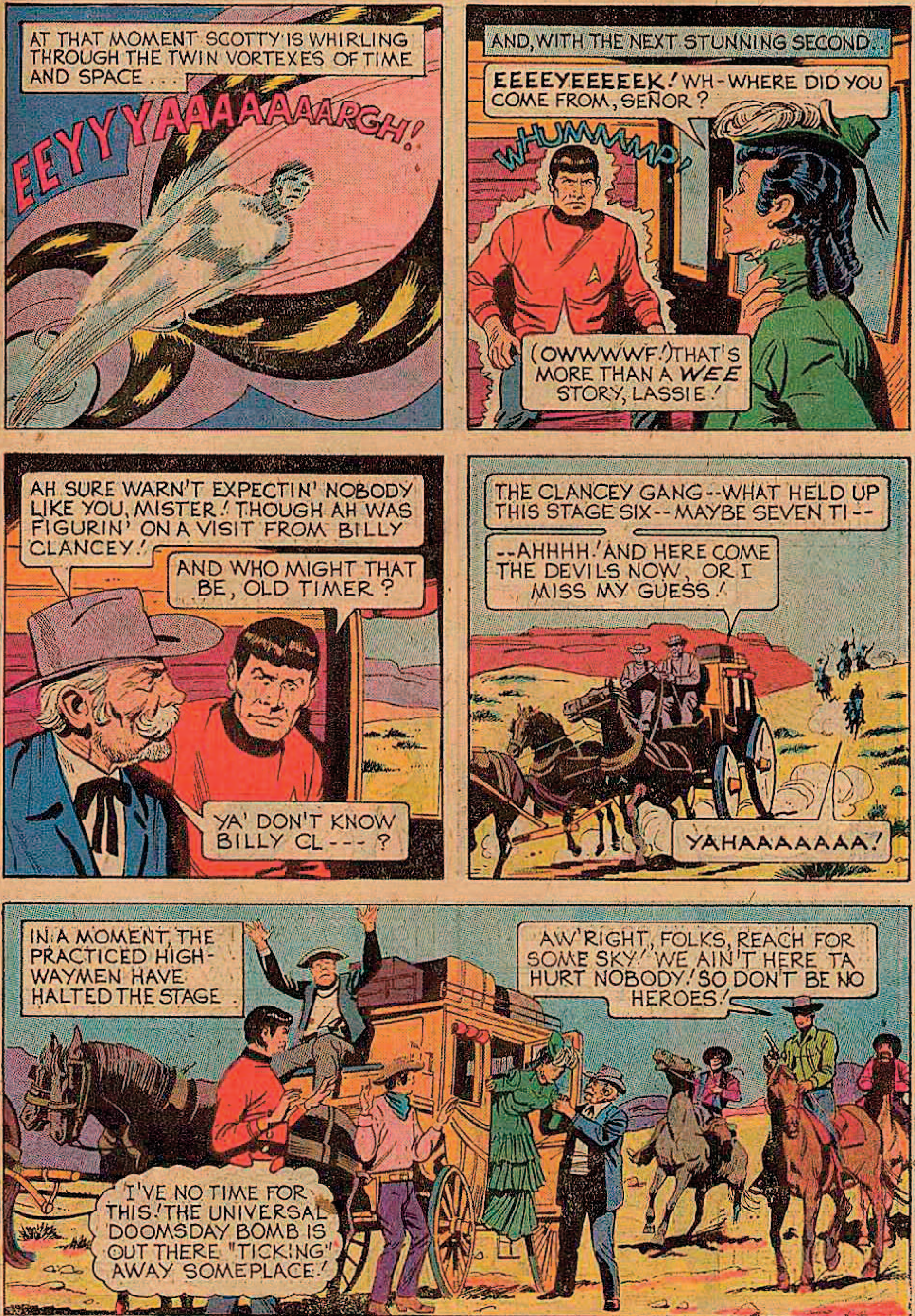

THE DEMONSTRATION TOUR CONTINUES . . .
OUR A-G INTERRUPTER! IT LAYS A BLOCK OF ENERGY BETWEEN THE SUBJECT AND THE STRONGEST GRAVITY SOURCE!
HA-HA-HA! THAT THING'S GOT ME IN FREE-FALL!
AND STILL ANOTHER ASTOUNDING PRODUCT . . .
OUR BIOLOGISTS DEVELOPED THIS HYBRID FIRE-SPIDER! A TWO-YEAR LIFE-SPAN AND IT LIVES ON NOTHING BUT BACTERIA!
WE COULD USE ONE OF THESE "LIVING LANTERNS" IN EVERY SURVIVAL KIT!
BUT I UNDERSTOOD YOUR MAJOR BREAK-THROUGH WAS IN EXPLOSIVES!
QUITE! WE HAVE TWO ENORMOUS PRIZES -- ONE IN SUPER-EXPLOSIVES AND THE OTHER ---
EMERGENCY! DR. STECKLER, REPORT TO THE TIME-STUDY LAB!
THAT'S OUR BREAK-THROUGH! THE MOST SUCCESSFUL EXPERIMENT TO DATE IN TIME TRAVEL!
SOMETHING'S GONE WRONG THERE!
IT- IT'S DR. LAX, SIR! HE'S BEEN BLASTED! M--MURDERED!

TERRIBLE, TERRIBLE! DR. LAX LED OUR TIME TRAVEL PROJECT!
HE DIED SECONDS AFTER I ARRIVED! HIS LAST WORDS WERE, "THE BOMB---FIND BOMB!"
TH--THE BOMB! THE N-CYCLE BOMB!
ATTENTION, N-CYCLE PROJECT! PROFESSOR ANDRES, REPORT TO ME AT ONCE IN TIME LAB! URGENT!
MINUTES LATER...
SORRY, SIR, PROFESSOR ANDRES CANNOT BE LOCATED!
WHAT?! LAX MURDERED---ANDRES VANISHED! WHAT'S GOING ON HERE?
ALSO, THIS REEL OF VIDEO TAPE WAS FOUND IN THE MAIN REC HALL--ADDRESSED TO YOU!
AND NOW AN ANONYMOUS MESSAGE, IT SEEMS! IT IS LOGICAL THAT ALL THREE MATTERS MAY BE RELATED!
SWIFTLY, STECKLER DROPS THE V-TAPE INTO A PLAYBACK!
DR. NJAM SPEAKING! THE N-CYCLE BOMB HAS BEEN REMOVED BY ITS INVENTOR, MY ASSOCIATE, DR. ANDRES! HE WILL EXPLODE SAME ON PLANET EARTH IN 24 HOURS!
WHATTT?!!

GET OFF A TRIPLE-A PRIORITY DISPATCH TO PLANET EARTH! "CLOSE ALL INTER-PLANETARY LANDING FIELDS AND BE ON LOOKOUT FOR ---"
YOU WILL NOT FIND PROF. ANDRES ANYWHERE ON EARTH AT THIS TIME!
WH-WHAT DOES HE MEAN, AT *THIS* TIME?
I HAVE A VERY APPREHENSIVE FEELING THAT I KNOW *EXACTLY* WHAT HE MEANS!
USING DR. LAX'S TIME TRAVEL CABINET, WE HAVE SENT DR. ANDRES INTO ANOTHER TIME PERIOD ON EARTH! WHICH ONE, OF COURSE, I WILL NOT DISCLOSE!
FASCINATING! ANDRES IS HIDING WITH THE BOMB--*SOMEWHERE* IN TIME!
THE BOMB, AS YOU KNOW, STECKLER, CAN DESTROY ALL OF EARTH -- BY IGNITING THE NITROGEN CYCLE! YOU HAVE 24 HOURS TO DELIVER *ONE BILLION* F.P. CREDITS TO MY BANK! GOODBYE -- FOR NOW!
DESTROYING EARTH--AT ANY POINT IN TIME---MEANS UNBALANCING ITS SOLAR SYSTEM AND COUNTLESS STAR SYSTEMS ADJOINING IT!
YES! THE PERSONNEL ON THE N-CYCLE PROJECT HAD A BITTER NAME FOR IT --- *U.D.D. -- UNIVERSAL DOOMSDAY!*

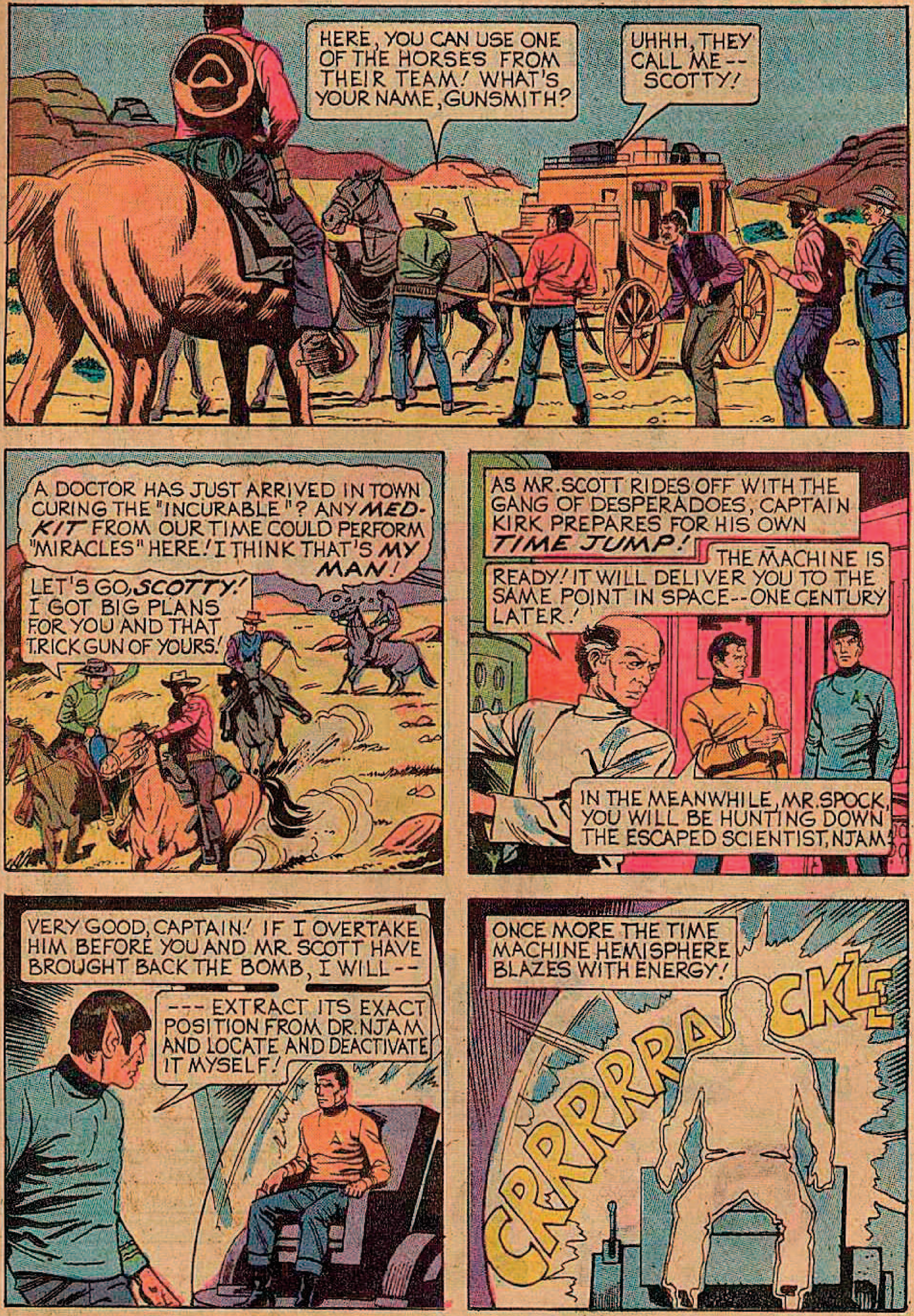
IT WAS A PROJECT NOBODY REALLY WANTED! BUT ONCE ANDRES PROVED THEORETICALLY IT COULD BE DONE --WE HAD TO -- BEFORE SOMEONE ELSE DID IT! AND NOW LOOK--!
THAT WON'T HELP US, DR. STECKLER!
WE MUST TRY TO UNDERSTAND WHAT HAPPENED! NJAM AND PROF. ANDRES FORMED THIS CONSPIRACY! DR. LAX --
--WAS NOT A WILLING AID! THEY HAD TO KILL HIM TO KEEP HIM FROM DIVULGING THEIR SECRET! YET ---
--YET THAT IS PRECISELY WHAT LAX WAS DOING WHEN HE DIED--TRYING TO TELL US WHERE IN TIME ANDRES WAS HIDDEN!
OF COURSE! WHEN ANDRES WAS PROJECTED INTO TIME, NJAM MIXED UP THE DIAL SETTINGS, THEN SHOT LAX!
--TO KEEP US FROM KNOWING WHERE ANDRES WENT! BUT LAX WAS RESETTING THE DIALS WHEN HE DIED! THE TIME IS APRIL 3, 1855 OR ---
OR 1955! HE HADN'T FINISHED SETTING THE SECOND DATE TUMBLER! BUT WHICH WAS IT --- 8 OR 9?
TIME TARGET
APRIL
3
AND, ACCORDING TO THE SPACE POSITION MATHEMATICALLY DESIGNATED HERE, THE PLACE IS AN AREA I BELIEVE THEY CALLED SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA IN THE UNITED STATES!
THAT IS WHERE THE N-CYCLE BOMB IS HIDDEN!
SPACE POSITION

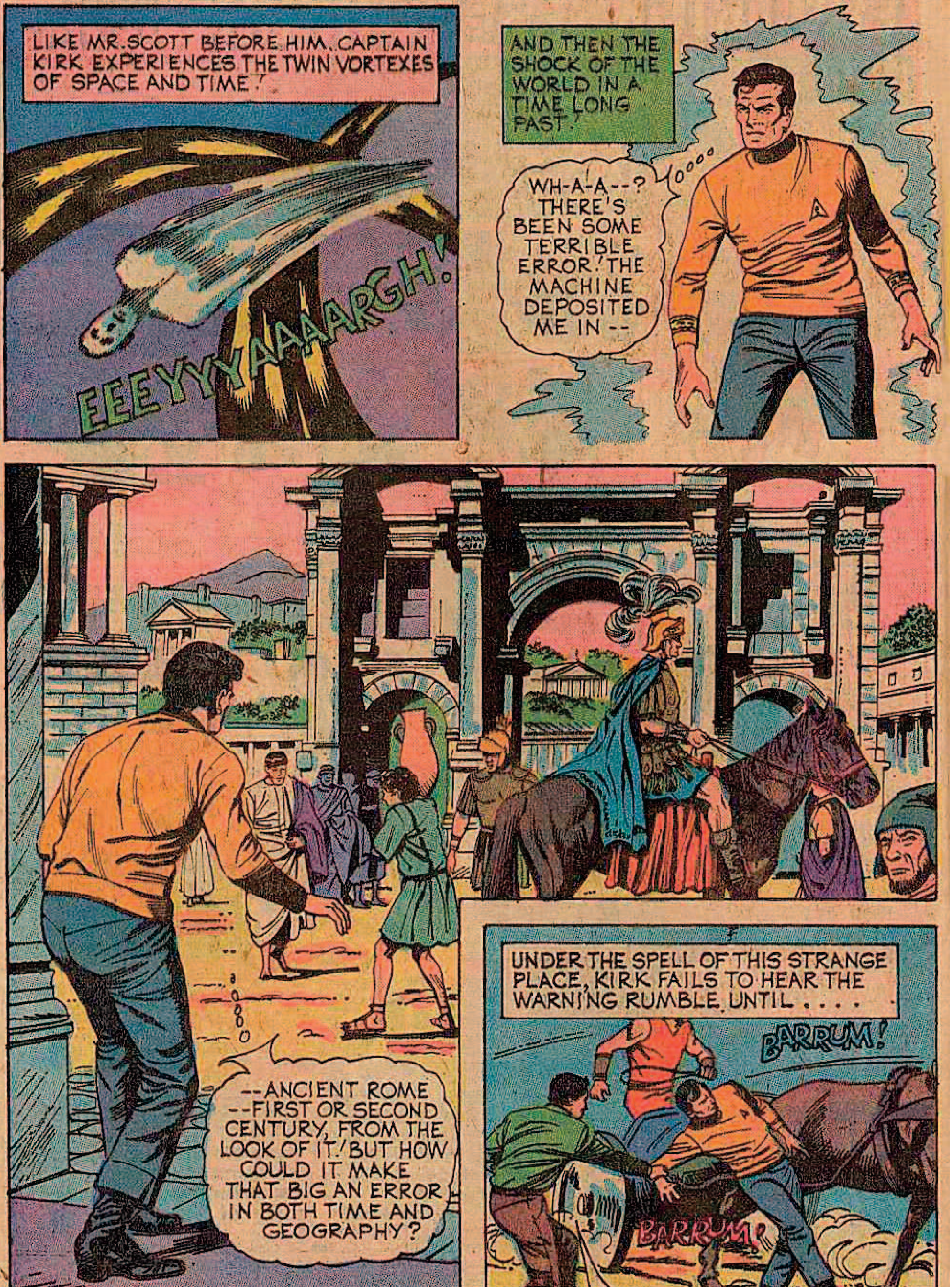

SIR! FLIGHT DISPATCHER REPORTS DR. NJAM LEFT ON UNAUTHORIZED SPACE FLIGHT EIGHT MINUTES AGO!
THAT'S IT! HE STAYED IN OUR TIME TO CARRY OUT THE RANSOM PROCEDURE --- WHILE ANDRES HID WITH THE BOMB -- IN TIME!
THE RANSOM EFFORT MUST GO FORWARD TO STALL THEM! MEANWHILE SCOTTY AND I WILL SEARCH OUT THOSE TWO TIME PERIODS!
I'LL FLIP YOU FOR WHO GETS WHICH CENTURY!
DR. STECKLER, CONVERSANT WITH THE TIME CABINET, PREPARES MR. SCOTT FOR THE STRANGE JOURNEY!
ALL RIGHT, MR. SCOTT, YOU ARE OFF TO CALIFORNIA--IS THAT WHAT IT IS CALLED--? 19TH CENTURY!
CRRRACKLE!
YEAH! OLD CALIFORNIA! THEY SAY IT WAS A MIGHTY ROMANTIC SPOT! SPANISH DONS--GAY SENORITAS!
A BLAZE OF CRACKLING LIGHT AND THEN..
HE'S VANISHING BEFORE OUR EYES!
I HOPE HE RECALLS OUR BRIEFING! HE'S LOOKING FOR A MAN WHOM THE NATIVES WILL CONSIDER STRANGELY DRESSED--AND PROBABLY OF AMAZING KNOWLEDGE!
CRRRACKLLE!
YES! ANDRES WILL HAVE TO TRADE HIS ADVANCED KNOWLEDGE FOR BED AND BOARD!
SO SCOTTY HAS TO LISTEN FOR RUMORS OF SOME STRANGE FELLOW WHO CAN PERFORM--"MIRACLES"!



AT THAT MOMENT SCOTTY IS WHIRLING THROUGH THE TWIN VORTEXES OF TIME AND SPACE . . .
EEYYYAAAAAAARGH!
AND, WITH THE NEXT STUNNING SECOND . . .
EEEEYEEEEEK! WH-WHERE DID YOU COME FROM, SEÑOR?
WHUMMMP!
(OWWWWF!) THAT'S MORE THAN A WEE STORY, LASSIE!
AH SURE WARN'T EXPECTIN' NOBODY LIKE YOU, MISTER! THOUGH AH WAS FIGURIN' ON A VISIT FROM BILLY CLANCEY!
AND WHO MIGHT THAT BE, OLD TIMER?
YA' DON'T KNOW BILLY CL---?
THE CLANCEY GANG--WHAT HELD UP THIS STAGE SIX--MAYBE SEVEN TI--
--AHHHH! AND HERE COME THE DEVILS NOW, OR I MISS MY GUESS!
YAHAAAAAAA!
IN A MOMENT, THE PRACTICED HIGH-WAYMEN HAVE HALTED THE STAGE.
AW'RIGHT, FOLKS, REACH FOR SOME SKY! WE AIN'T HERE TA HURT NOBODY! SO DON'T BE NO HEROES!
I'VE NO TIME FOR THIS! THE UNIVERSAL DOOMSDAY BOMB IS OUT THERE "TICKING" AWAY SOMEPLACE!

IF'N WE MAKE IT FAST, BILLY, I CAN STILL SEE THAT DOCTOR IN TOWN THEY'S ALL TALKIN' ABOUT!
THAT BUSTED HAND OF YOURS WERE NEVER SET RIGHT, WACO -- NO DOC CAN CURE IT, AH DON'T CARE WHO HE IS!
BUT HE ONLY GOT THERE THIS MORNIN' AND THEY SAY HE'S PERFORMIN' NEAR MIRACLES!
COME ON, YOU IN THE FUNNY SUIT! LET'S HAVE YOUR MONEY!
I HAVE NONE! BUT IF HE SEARCHES ME HE'LL FIND MY PHASER!
THEN, AS THE YOUNG OUTLAW TURNS ON SCOTTY WITH A SNARL . . .
OKAY, LET'S SEE WHAT YOU GOT!
GET AWAY FROM ME!
IN A BLIND RAGE, WACO GOES FOR HIS SIX-SHOOTER AND . . . .
EEYOWWW!
ZZZZZAM!
WHAT IN HANNAH KIND OF GUN IS THAT?
ONE OF MY OWN DESIGN! I'M A BIT OF A GUNSMITH! AND WOULD YOU CARE TO BUY MY TALENTS?
YOU BET YOUR BOOTS WE WOULD!
RENEGADE DOG! YOU'LL DIE WITH THESE BANDIDOS!


HERE, YOU CAN USE ONE OF THE HORSES FROM THEIR TEAM! WHAT'S YOUR NAME, GUNSMITH?
UHHH, THEY CALL ME -- SCOTTY!
A DOCTOR HAS JUST ARRIVED IN TOWN CURING THE "INCURABLE"? ANY MED-KIT FROM OUR TIME COULD PERFORM "MIRACLES" HERE! I THINK THAT'S MY MAN!
LET'S GO, SCOTTY! I GOT BIG PLANS FOR YOU AND THAT TRICK GUN OF YOURS!
AS MR. SCOTT RIDES OFF WITH THE GANG OF DESPERADOES, CAPTAIN KIRK PREPARES FOR HIS OWN TIME JUMP!
THE MACHINE IS READY! IT WILL DELIVER YOU TO THE SAME POINT IN SPACE--ONE CENTURY LATER!
IN THE MEANWHILE, MR. SPOCK, YOU WILL BE HUNTING DOWN THE ESCAPED SCIENTIST, NJAM!
VERY GOOD, CAPTAIN! IF I OVERTAKE HIM BEFORE YOU AND MR. SCOTT HAVE BROUGHT BACK THE BOMB, I WILL --
--- EXTRACT ITS EXACT POSITION FROM DR. NJAM AND LOCATE AND DEACTIVATE IT MYSELF!
ONCE MORE THE TIME MACHINE HEMISPHERE BLAZES WITH ENERGY!
CRRRRRACKLE

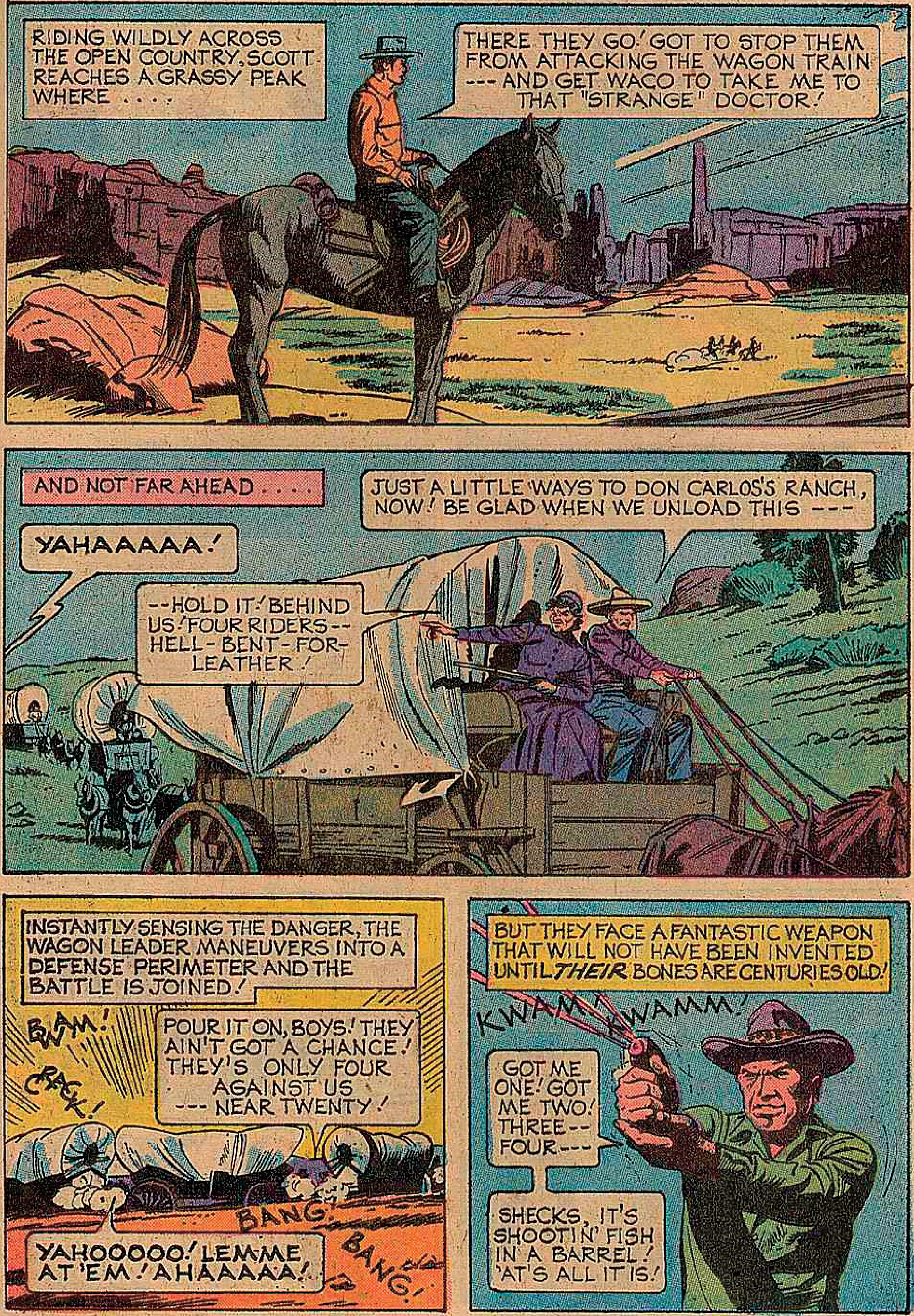

LIKE MR. SCOTT BEFORE HIM, CAPTAIN KIRK EXPERIENCES THE TWIN VORTEXES OF SPACE AND TIME!
EEEYYYAAAARGH!
AND THEN THE SHOCK OF THE WORLD IN A TIME LONG PAST!
WH-A-A--? THERE'S BEEN SOME TERRIBLE ERROR! THE MACHINE DEPOSITED ME IN --
--ANCIENT ROME --FIRST OR SECOND CENTURY, FROM THE LOOK OF IT! BUT HOW COULD IT MAKE THAT BIG AN ERROR IN BOTH TIME AND GEOGRAPHY?
UNDER THE SPELL OF THIS STRANGE PLACE, KIRK FAILS TO HEAR THE WARNING RUMBLE, UNTIL . . . .
BARRUM!
BARRUM!
LOOK OU-U-U-T!

AND THEN IT ALL BECAME WRYLY REAL TO THE MAN FROM THE FUTURE!
YOU MUST BE THE STUNT MAN THEY SENT OVER TO DO THAT CHARIOT JUMP!
Y-YES, SIR!
OF COURSE! IT'S NOT ROME! IT'S CALIFORNIA-- WHERE THEY ONCE MADE FILMS! WHAT WAS THE NAME OF THAT PLACE AGAIN? HOLLY--WOOD?
THOSE IDIOTS! THEY SENT YOU OVER IN A COSTUME FOR THAT SPACE FLICK THEY'RE SHOOTING IN YUMA! HOW COULD THEY?
WELL--UHH--YOU KNOW WHAT THEY SAY -- "THAT'S H-HOLLYWOOD!"
OKAY, NO SWEAT! TAKE THIS OVER TO UNIT WARDROBE DEPARTMENT! THEY'LL FIX YOU UP WITH ONE OF THOSE ROMAN BATHROBES!
Y-YES--(HA-HA-HA!)-- BATHROBES! I'LL GET RIGHT ON IT!
THESE STUNT MEN HAVE GOT TO BE CRAZY-- THAT GUY LOOKS DIZZY!
SHORTLY, AS THE CHARADE GROWS EVER BROADER:
NEVER BARGAINED FOR A COSTUME PARTY! BUT IF IT GETS ME CLOSER TO ANDRES AND THE BOMB--
YOU! STUNT MAN! STEP ON IT! MR. BOVRILLE WANTS TO SEE YOU --- PERSONALLY!

SUDDENLY, CAPTAIN KIRK FINDS HIMSELF BEFORE A PERSONALITY WHO IS CLEARLY -- MR. BIG!
YOU'RE THE STUNT MAN, EH? DIDN'T WE WORK TOGETHER ON "TRAIL OF THE MOHICANS"?
N-NO, SIR! I DON'T DO INDIAN STUNTS!
YOU UNDERSTAND THE STUNT, EH? YOU'RE DRIVING THIS CHARIOT--WHEN YOUR ENEMY SLASHES THE REINS WITH ONE GREAT SWORD STROKE!
CUTS THE HORSES FREE! YES -- OF COURSE!
THEN, WITH THE HORSELESS CHARIOT, YOU GO FLYING STRAIGHT OVER THIS STREAM! QUITE A STUNT, EH? --- FRANKLY, I ALMOST CANCELLED IT-- TOO DANGEROUS! BUT THEN THIS NEW "EFFECTS" MAN SHOWED ME IT WAS WORKABLE!
MR. BOVRILLE
HE'S SOME KIND OF A ROCKET EXPERT! AND HE SHOWED ME HOW TWO WELL-CONCEALED ROCKETS COULD ---
-- POWER THE CHARIOT OVER THE STREAM! QUITE SOME TECHNICIAN, YOUR NEW MAN!
PROF. ANDRES KNOWS MORE ABOUT ROCKETS THAN ALL THE EXPERTS OF THIS PERIOD -- COMBINED! I'VE GOT TO MEET THE SPECIAL EFFECTS MAN!

STAR TREK PART 2
A BOMB IN TIME
CAPTAIN'S LOG: IN SEARCH OF THE NITROGEN-CYCLE BOMB, MR. SCOTT AND I TIME-JUMPED TO SEPARATE LOCATIONS WHERE THE BOMB MIGHT BE HIDDEN.'
HOW MUCH YOU WANT FOR IT, SCOTTY? I'LL GIVE YA' MAH DUDS--THAT YOU'RE WEARIN' --AN' 300 DOLLARS! IN GOLD!
ZAAMMMM!
ZAM ZAM
ZAM ZAM
ZAM
HOOOO - EEEEEEE! THAT GUN'D MAKE ANY MAN A REGULAR ARMY!
NO SALE, BILLY, ME BOY! YOU WANT MY GUN, YOU HAVE TO TAKE ME WITH IT!

THERE'S A WAGON TRAIN HAULING MEXICAN SILVER, AND WE'RE GONNA TAKE IT!
THERE'LL BE TWENTY TOP GUNS GUARDIN' THAT "WAGON TRAIN"! BUT WE GOT A "GUN" THAT TOPS THEM ALL--- RIGHT, SCOTTY?
BUT JUST THEN, A DIZZYING AFTER-EFFECT OF TIME TRAVELING HITS SCOTTY!
RIGHT--RIGHT! YOU SADDLE UP! I'VE GOT TO STRETCH OUT FOR A SECOND! FEELING A LITTLE DIZZY!
AND THE SECOND HE ENTERS THE BEDROOM --
UGGGGGHHH!
--SCOTTY PASSES INTO BRIEF OBLIVION!
LATER, AS HE AWAKENS...
THAT'S BETTER! NO TRACE OF DIZZI --
OOO
-- MY PHASER! THEY STOLE IT! THEY'RE GOING TO ROB A WAGON TRAIN OF MEXICAN SILVER--
-- WITH A GUN THAT WON'T BE INVENTED FOR CENTURIES!
THAT GIVES ME TWO MISSIONS -- FIND THE DOOMSDAY BOMB AND STOP THOSE BANDIDOS!


RIDING WILDLY ACROSS THE OPEN COUNTRY, SCOTT REACHES A GRASSY PEAK WHERE . . . .
THERE THEY GO! GOT TO STOP THEM FROM ATTACKING THE WAGON TRAIN --- AND GET WACO TO TAKE ME TO THAT "STRANGE" DOCTOR!
AND NOT FAR AHEAD . . . .
JUST A LITTLE WAYS TO DON CARLOS'S RANCH, NOW! BE GLAD WHEN WE UNLOAD THIS ---
YAHAAAAA!
--HOLD IT! BEHIND US! FOUR RIDERS--HELL-BENT-FOR-LEATHER!
INSTANTLY SENSING THE DANGER, THE WAGON LEADER MANEUVERS INTO A DEFENSE PERIMETER AND THE BATTLE IS JOINED!
BWAM!
POUR IT ON, BOYS! THEY AIN'T GOT A CHANCE! THEY'S ONLY FOUR AGAINST US --- NEAR TWENTY!
CRACK!
BANG!
BANG!
YAHOOOOO! LEMME AT 'EM! AHAAAAA!
BUT THEY FACE A FANTASTIC WEAPON THAT WILL NOT HAVE BEEN INVENTED UNTIL THEIR BONES ARE CENTURIES OLD!
KWAM! KWAMM!
GOT ME ONE! GOT ME TWO! THREE--FOUR---
SHECKS, IT'S SHOOTIN' FISH IN A BARREL! 'AT'S ALL IT IS!

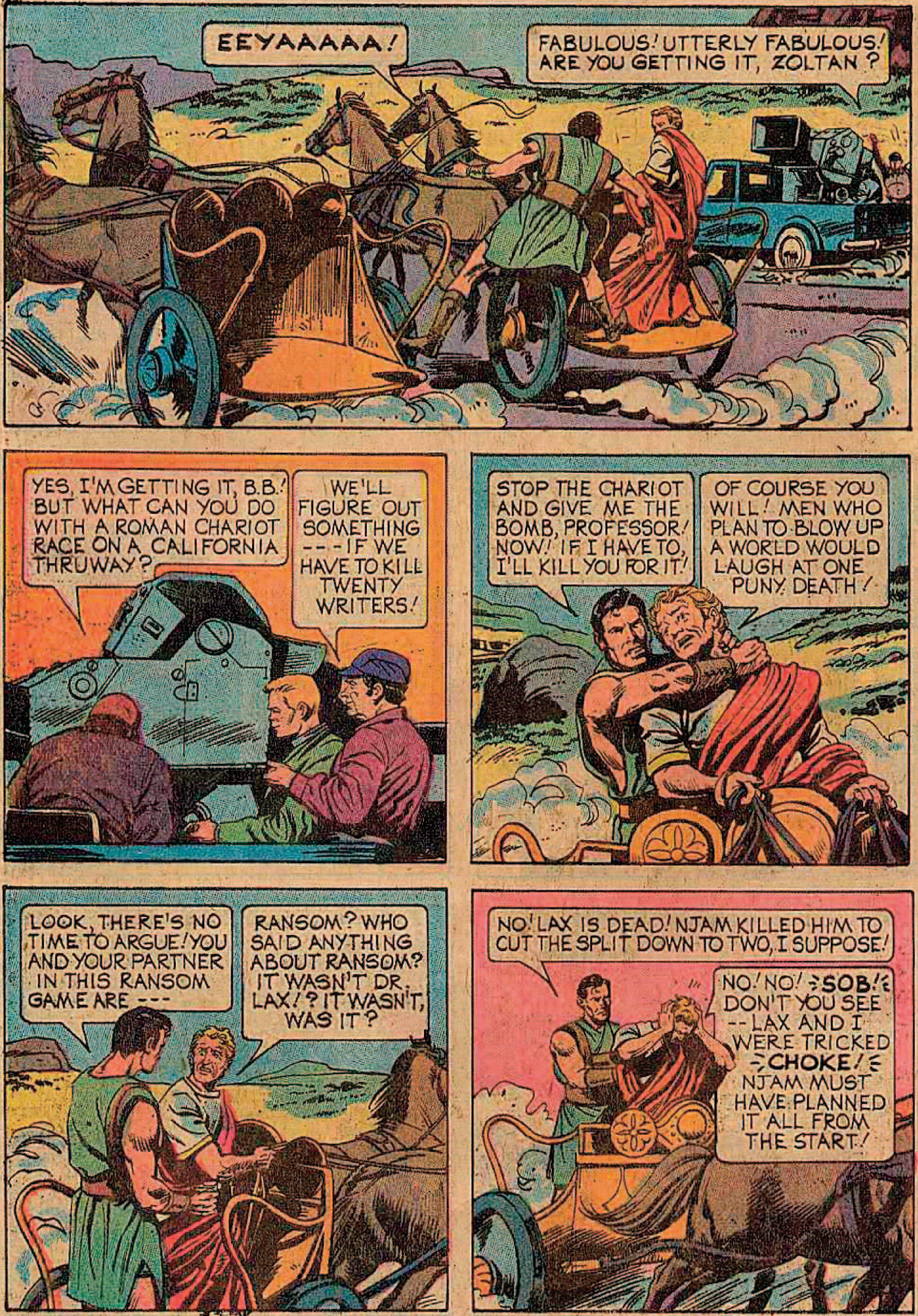
AS MEN FALL LIKE TEN-PINS, THE OTHER WAGON DEFENDERS LOSE ALL TASTE FOR THE DEADLY GAME!
'AT 'A WAY, BOYS! JES' CHUCK YOUR GUNS TO THE GROUND AND STEP BACK!
WHAT THE DEVIL KIND OF GUN IS THAT?
SWIFTLY, THE GANG BEGINS TO TRANSFER THE SILVER TO A SINGLE WAGON....
PSSST! DON'T TURN AROUND! JUST INCH FORWARD AND SEE IF YOU CAN KICK ONE OF THOSE GUNS BACK TOWARD ME, "MA'M"!
TEN SECONDS LATER, AS SOME PREMONITION WHIRLS BILLY CLANCEY AROUND...
YOU! PUT THAT DOWN! WE ONLY BORRIED YOUR GUN! 'SIDES THAT SIX-SHOOTER'S NO MATCH FOR YOUR WEAPON!
WHY DON'T WE PUT THEM BOTH DOWN, BILLY?
WITHOUT WARNING, THE OUTLAW OPENS FIRE! BUT SCOTT IS NOT CAUGHT NAPPING!
UGGGH! YOU'RE A MAN OF YOUR WORD, BILLY! AND EVERY WORD IS A LIE!
KWANM!
WHOOOOSH!
LOOKS LIKE I'LL BE EATING A LOT OF DIRT TODAY!

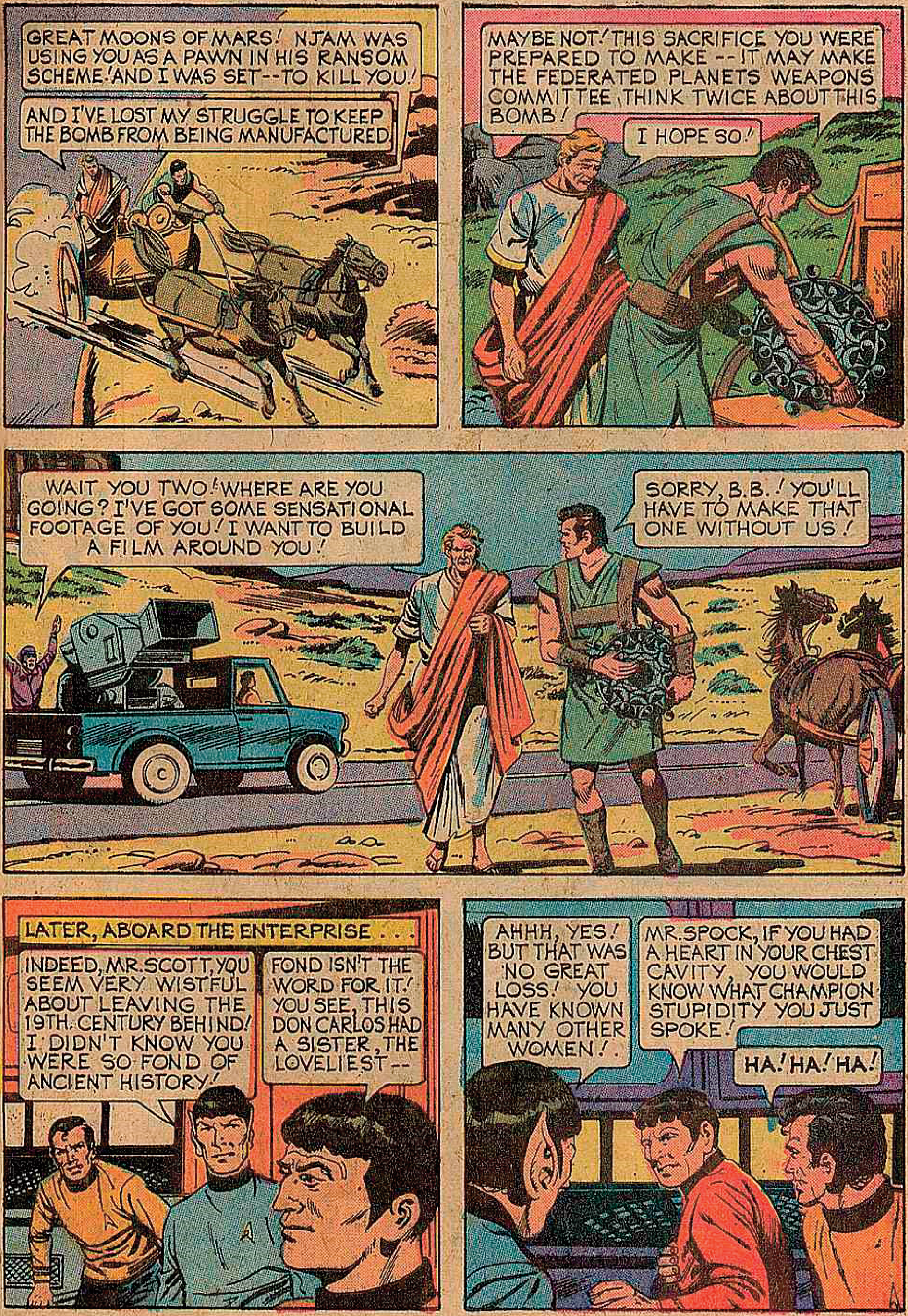
AGAIN AND AGAIN THE BANDIT FIRES AT THE NEAR-PHANTOM FIGURE!
KWAMM!
KWAMM!
AT LAST! THE BLUE WARNING LIGHT! MEANS THE PHASER IS LOSING ITS CHARGE! I THINK THAT'S HIS LAST SHOT! I'LL RUSH HIM RIGHT --
KWAMM!
---NOW-W-W!
KWAMMM!
OUUUCH! THERE WAS STILL A LITTLE STING LEFT IN HER!
WITH THAT, THE REMAINING GUARDIANS OF THE WAGON TRAIN TAKE HEART AGAIN -- AND FISTS!
WHOPPP!
THUMMP!
SLAMMM!
YAHHHAAAAA! HAVE A TASTE OF YOUR OWN MEDICINE! SEE HOW THIS FEELS!
ARRRGH!
UGGGGH!

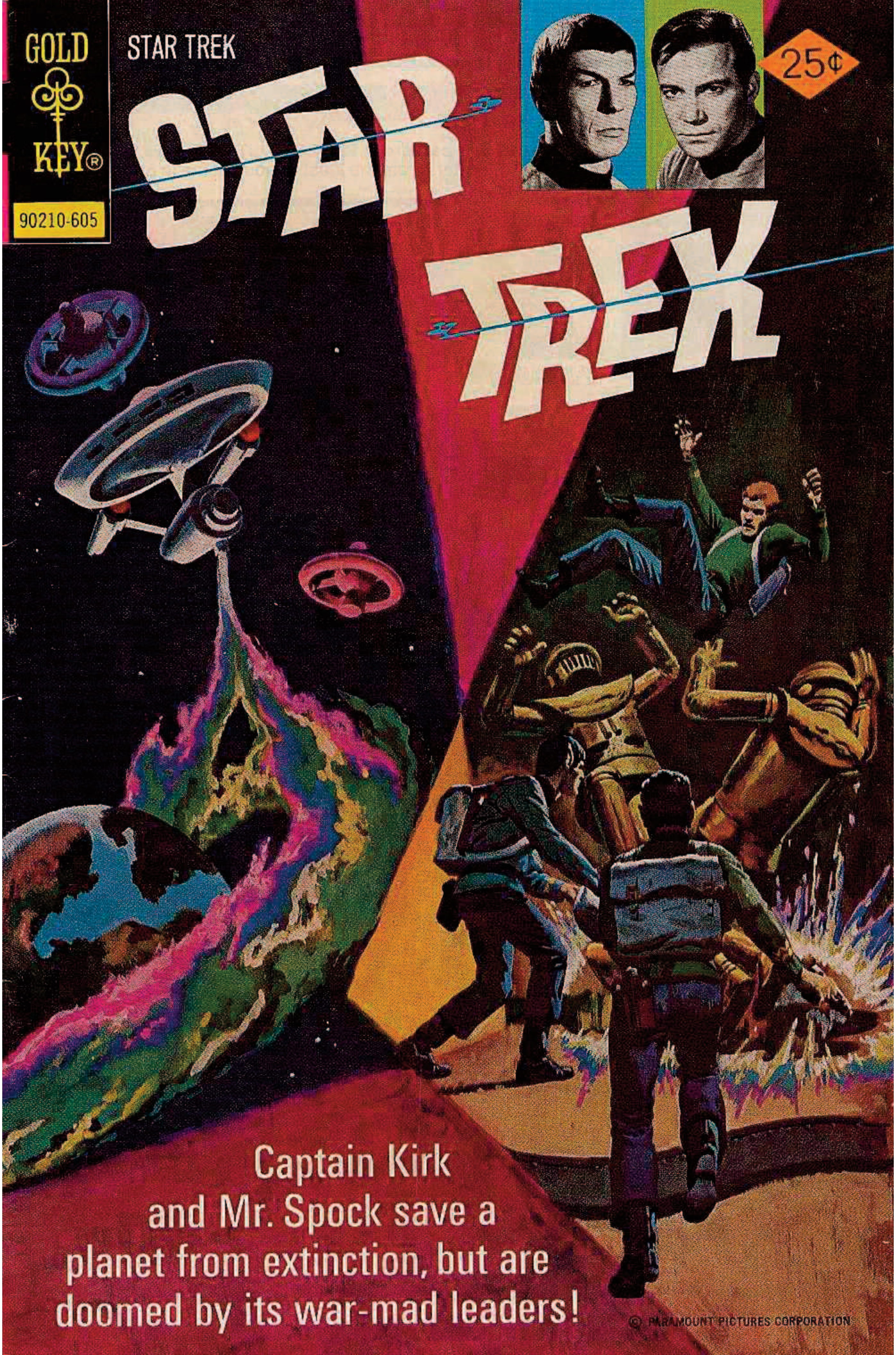
SHORTLY...
--OUR WEDDING CEREMONY WAS INTERRUPTED BY THE NEWS OF THE ATTACK! YOU MUST BE OUR GUEST AT THE RANCH, SEÑOR!
I'D REALLY LIKE TO, DON CARLOS, BUT I'VE GOT A DATE IN SOME TOWN NEAR HERE--WITH WACO'S DOCTOR! HE'S TAKING ME!
LATER, IN TOWN, A GRIM JOKE IS COMPLETED!
YES, DR. DUNSANEY'S MAGIC ELIXIR WILL CURE LUMBAGO, CATARACTS, HEART SEIZURES, CONSUMPTION, BACKACHES, EARACHES ---
DOCTOR SMITH'S SNAKE OIL
THERE HE IS, LIKE THEY SAID --- A DOCTOR IN FUNNY CLOTHES --
--WHO GUARANTEES TO CURE EVERYTHING! HAR! HAR!
ALL RIGHT, CAPTAIN! IT'S UP TO YOU NOW! WHEREVER YOU ARE--THAT'S WHERE THE BOMB'S GOT TO BE!
ELSEWHEN...
THAT DOES IT! I'M ON MY OWN! NOW I PRESS A BUTTON TO FIRE ROCKETS!
BATHHUMP

THEN, AS THE WILDLY CAREENING CHARIOT ROLLS STRAIGHT TOWARDS THE STREAM . . .
FWOOOOOOOOOM!
IT'S WORKING! NICE PIECE OF ROCKET DESIGN! NOW I'M SURE PROF. ANDRES DID IT!
YOU WANT THE SPECIAL EFFECTS MAN? I DON'T BLAME YOU! HE DID A FABULOUS JOB! HE'S IN THE BLUE CAMPER OVER THERE!
YOU! STUNTMAN! I WANT TO TALK TO YOU!
INSIDE THE CAMPER WHICH SERVES AS SPECIAL EFFECTS H.Q. ON LOCATION . . . .
WHO --?
YOU'RE PROF. ANDRES, AREN'T YOU? I'VE COME TO --
CRZZZZZZ
WITH A WILD CRY, THE HOODED MAN SWINGS HIS TORCH IN A FIERY ARC!
YOU WON'T TAKE ME! YOU WON'T! EEEYYAA!
CRRZZZZ!
RUSHING PAST KIRK, THE HOODED ANDRES MAKES HIS ESCAPE . . . .
BADDDUDA! BADDDUDA! BADDDUDA! WHOOOOOOSH!
HE'S GETTING AWAY! GOT TO FOLLOW HIM! NO CARS AROUND! I'LL HAVE TO USE ANOTHER CHARIOT!

AND MOMENTS LATER, ON A GREAT CALIFORNIA FREEWAY...
I SEE IT -- BUT I DON'T BELIEVE IT!
HE THINKS THIS IS STRANGE! WHAT WOULD HE SAY IF HE KNEW THERE WAS A BOMB IN THAT CHARIOT THAT COULD DESTROY ALL OF EARTH!??
HONNNK!
HONNNK!
BADDDUDA!
BADDDUDA!
BADDDUDA!
MEANWHILE, MR. SPOCK HAS FOUND HIS TARGET!
DON'T YOU UNDERSTAND, DR. NJAM, IF ANDRES DESTROYS EARTH CENTURIES BACK, THE CHANGES IT WOULD BRING COULD WIND UP BY INSTANTLY KILLING YOU AND ME AS WELL!
YES, YES! BUT PERHAPS I DON'T HOLD LIFE AS DEAR AS YOU!
I'VE GOT IT! THE BLACKMAIL WAS YOUR SECRET IDEA! ANDRES APPROACHED YOU TO HELP HIM HIDE THE BOMB IN TIME -- UNTIL THE FEDERATED PLANETS PROMISED NEVER TO USE IT! ONCE HE LEFT, YOU KILLED LAX ---
MEANWHILE, THE CHARIOT RACE CONTINUES!
THERE IT IS! IN THE CHARIOT WITH HIM!
GIVE UP THE BOMB, PROF. ANDRES!
NEVER! NEVER!
CAREFULLY, KIRK MEASURES THE DISTANCE BETWEEN THE CHARIOTS WITH HIS EYES!
THAT COULD GO OFF AT ANY SECOND! GOT TO JUMP AND TAKE MY -- CHANCES!


EEYAAAAA!
FABULOUS! UTTERLY FABULOUS! ARE YOU GETTING IT, ZOLTAN ?
YES, I'M GETTING IT, B.B.! BUT WHAT CAN YOU DO WITH A ROMAN CHARIOT RACE ON A CALIFORNIA THRUWAY?
WE'LL FIGURE OUT SOMETHING --- IF WE HAVE TO KILL TWENTY WRITERS!
STOP THE CHARIOT AND GIVE ME THE BOMB, PROFESSOR! NOW! IF I HAVE TO, I'LL KILL YOU FOR IT!
OF COURSE YOU WILL! MEN WHO PLAN TO BLOW UP A WORLD WOULD LAUGH AT ONE PUNY DEATH!
LOOK, THERE'S NO TIME TO ARGUE! YOU AND YOUR PARTNER IN THIS RANSOM GAME ARE ---
RANSOM? WHO SAID ANYTHING ABOUT RANSOM? IT WASN'T DR. LAX!? IT WASN'T, WAS IT?
NO! LAX IS DEAD! NJAM KILLED HIM TO CUT THE SPLIT DOWN TO TWO, I SUPPOSE!
NO! NO! SOB! DON'T YOU SEE --LAX AND I WERE TRICKED CHOKE! NJAM MUST HAVE PLANNED IT ALL FROM THE START!


GREAT MOONS OF MARS! NJAM WAS USING YOU AS A PAWN IN HIS RANSOM SCHEME! AND I WAS SET--TO KILL YOU!
AND I'VE LOST MY STRUGGLE TO KEEP THE BOMB FROM BEING MANUFACTURED!
MAYBE NOT! THIS SACRIFICE YOU WERE PREPARED TO MAKE -- IT MAY MAKE THE FEDERATED PLANETS WEAPONS COMMITTEE THINK TWICE ABOUT THIS BOMB!
I HOPE SO!
WAIT YOU TWO! WHERE ARE YOU GOING? I'VE GOT SOME SENSATIONAL FOOTAGE OF YOU! I WANT TO BUILD A FILM AROUND YOU!
SORRY, B.B.! YOU'LL HAVE TO MAKE THAT ONE WITHOUT US!
LATER, ABOARD THE ENTERPRISE . . .
INDEED, MR. SCOTT, YOU SEEM VERY WISTFUL ABOUT LEAVING THE 19TH CENTURY BEHIND! I DIDN'T KNOW YOU WERE SO FOND OF ANCIENT HISTORY!
FOND ISN'T THE WORD FOR IT! YOU SEE, THIS DON CARLOS HAD A SISTER, THE LOVELIEST--
AHHH, YES! BUT THAT WAS NO GREAT LOSS! YOU HAVE KNOWN MANY OTHER WOMEN!
MR. SPOCK, IF YOU HAD A HEART IN YOUR CHEST CAVITY, YOU WOULD KNOW WHAT CHAMPION STUPIDITY YOU JUST SPOKE!
HA! HA! HA!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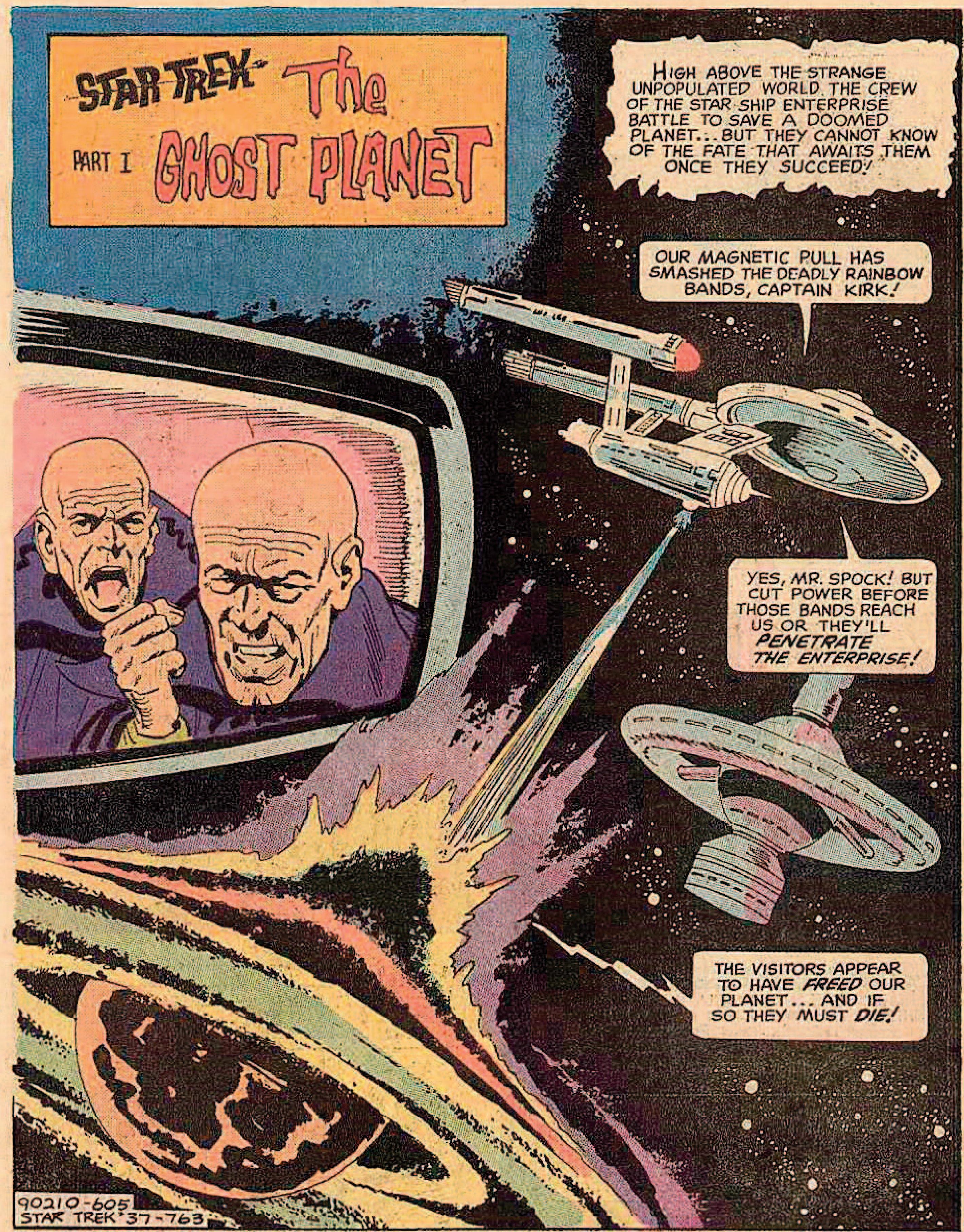

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CAPTAIN'S LOG, STAR DATE 26:06.4-- ENTERPRISE MOVING DEEP INTO GALAXY ZELTA...WE HAVE SIGHTED A STRANGE RINGED AREA...IT MAY CONCEAL A PLANET ...INVESTIGATION UNDER WAY...
WHAT DO YOU MAKE OF IT, MR. SPOCK? THEY'RE SIMILAR TO THE RINGS OF SATURN--BUT NO PLANET IS INDICATED!
I'M CHECKING THEM ON THE SPECTROSCOPE NOW, CAPTAIN KIRK!
THE RINGS ARE COMPOSED OF A COPPER CONTENT, CAPTAIN! THEY ARE CIRCULATING AROUND A... PLANET!
ARE YOU CERTAIN, MR. SPOCK?
AFFIRMATIVE. THE EVIDENCE ON THE SPECTROSCOPE IS UNASSAILABLE!
A PLANET WRAPPED IN RAINBOW RINGS!
ROCKETS ON FULL! SAME COURSE!
NEARING THE SPEED OF LIGHT, THE QUEEN SHIP OF THE STAR FLEET PLUMMETS TOWARD THE UNKNOWN PLANET...
THE COPPER CONTENT...IS IT DANGEROUS TO US?
NO! THERE IS A MINOR MAGNETIC FIELD BUT WE HAVE THE THRUST TO OVERCOME IT!
HOWEVER, THERE WILL BE TURBULENCE!
SECURE SEAT BELTS!

RADIOACTIVITY! CAN YOU PINPOINT IT?
NO, IT IS VERY FAINT! BUT IT IS PRESENT!
TRIGGER TELESCOPIC VIEW CAMERA!
AN EMPTY CITY ... NOT A CITIZEN, VEHICLE OR MOVING THING! WHAT DO YOU MAKE OF IT, MR. SPOCK?
ONE CANNOT JUDGE SO QUICKLY! PERHAPS A GHOST TOWN!!
SHALL WE RECONNOITER THE AREA FOR A FEW HOURS, CAPTAIN?
NO...
...THAT WOULD JUST MAKE OUR PRESENCE POSITIVELY KNOWN... IF IT ISN'T ALREADY! WE'LL BEAM DOWN!
PICK TWO MEN FROM THE CREW AND COME WITH ME, MR. SPOCK! DR. McCOY, YOU KEEP CONTACT WITH US FROM HERE!
MOMENTS LATER, BEAMS IN THE TRANSPORT CHAMBER ILLUMINATE THE EXPLORATION TEAM...

AND A MICRO-SECOND LATER, THE FOUR-MAN TEAM MATERIALIZES ON THE MYSTERIOUS GHOST PLANET...
SUDDENLY, A HOLLOW VOICE BOOMS OUT IN THE EMPTY SQUARE...
WELCOME, VISITORS! TRANSPORTATION IS ENROUTE FOR YOU!
WHAT DO YOU MAKE OF IT, MR. SPOCK? SOME TYPE OF MECHANIZED CIVILIZATION?
NEGATIVE, CAPTAIN! IF YOU NOTICE, THE AREA DOES NOT APPEAR LIVED IN!
...AND LOOK OVER THERE!
PART OF THE CITY IN RUINS! A HOLOCAUST! PERHAPS A CITY BURNED OUT!
I BELIEVE NOT! THERE ARE DEEP INDENTATIONS IN THE GROUND...
...SIMILAR TO THOSE MADE BY BOMBING DURING A WAR!
HERE'S OUR VEHICLE ...ROBOT CONTROLLED! KEEP YOUR PHASERS READIED, PEOPLE!

THIS IS EERIE, CAPTAIN! SHOULD WE GO THROUGH WITH IT?
WE'RE PREPARED! PEOPLE WITH A CIVILIZATION LIKE THIS CAN'T BE FOOLS--THEY MUST KNOW WE HAVE A SHIP HOVERING ABOVE THAT COULD DESTROY THEM AT ANY SIGN OF TREACHERY!
SHORTLY, THE VEHICLE SLOWS AND...
A ROBOT--MOTIONING US INSIDE!
THIS APPEARS TO BE THEIR CENTRAL COMMUNICATIONS BUILDING! CAPTAIN, OBSERVE THE MANY ANTENNAE...
PLEASE... TAKE YOUR... SEATS!
VERY DRAMATIC! AT LEAST THEY SPEAK THE INTERPLANETARY LANGUAGE ESPERANTA!
WE KNOW... YOU ARE... CONFUSED... IT WILL BE EXPLAINED... BUT YOU MUST... BELIEVE WE ARE FRIENDLY ...NOW THE GOVERNMENT HEADS WILL ADDRESS YOU!
ABRUPTLY, THE GIANT SCREEN GLISTENS... TWO MAMMOTH HEADS APPEAR...
PLEASE LET US INTRODUCE OURSELVES! WE ARE THE TWIN SUPREMES OF PLANET NUMERO UNO! I AM JUSTIN!
AND I AM JUSTIN! WE RULE TOGETHER!

AND I AM CAPTAIN KIRK OF THE STAR SHIP ENTERPRISE! OUR MISSION IS TO AID THOSE OF THE PLANETARY SYSTEM WHO MAY BE IN NEED!
BUT THE TREATMENT YOU OFFER IS INSULTING! EITHER IDENTIFY YOURSELVES PROPERLY OR WE WILL LEAVE!
PLEASE... I APOLOGIZE... WE APOLOGIZE! CAPTAIN KIRK-- IF YOU WILL BE PATIENT AND HEAR OUR TERRIBLE STORY YOU WILL UNDERSTAND!
VERY WELL! SPEAK!
AND AS JUSTIN ONE SPEAKS, THE SCREEN ENLARGES... TO TAKE IN A TERRIFYING SIGHT...
IT WAS JUST A LUNAR SUN AGO THAT THE TERROR MOVED IN UPON OUR PLANET... THE TERRIBLE RAINBOW RINGS THAT WERE SOON TO THROTTLE AND DRIVE US FROM THE PLANET OF OUR ANCESTORS...

THE VERY SIGHT OF THE RINGS STRUCK TERROR INTO THE HEARTS OF MY PEOPLE...
AND AS THE DAYS PASSED, THE MENACE OF THE EERIE RINGS WAS TO BE KNOWN TO US ALL... PHYSICALLY!
FOR THE OMINOUS BANDS EMITTED A STRANGE COPPER RADIATION THAT AFFECTED OUR BODIES!
NO SUBSTANCE KNOWN CAN STOP THE RADIATION, JUSTIN 1! OUR ENTIRE POPULATION WILL PERISH!
BUT WE CANNOT STAND BY AND ALLOW OUR RACE TO BECOME EXTINCT! SOMETHING MUST BE DONE!
THE BUILDING OF TWO ARTIFICIAL SATELLITES WENT UNDER EMERGENCY CONSTRUCTION...
AND WITHIN A MONTH'S TIME, THE UNOITE EXODUS TO THE SATELLITES WAS UNDERWAY! IT WAS EXTREMELY SUCCESSFUL...

SOON, AN OBVIOUS DANGER WAS UPON US --OVER-POPULATION! EVERY SQUARE INCH OF THE SATELLITES IS BEING UTILIZED...
OUR LAND CANNOT FEED THE MASSES! AND WE DO NOT HAVE THE MEANS TO CONSTRUCT OTHER SATELLITES...
...OR WEAPONS POWERFUL ENOUGH TO DESTROY THE DOOM RINGS! WE THOUGHT, PERHAPS, YOU MAY HAVE THE MEANS TO HELP US...
DESTROY THE RINGS? I-I DON'T KNOW-- WHAT DO YOU THINK, MR. SPOCK?
LASER BEAMS WOULD MOST CERTAINLY SHATTER THE RINGS, CAPTAIN-- BUT THE CONTAMINATED MATTER WOULD STILL ORBIT THE PLANET...
THE ONLY POSSIBLE SOLUTION WOULD BE TO MAGNETICALLY PULL THE RINGS AWAY FROM THE PLANET AND INTO DEEP SPACE...
BUT I AM NOT SURE OUR SPACECRAFT CAN DO THE JOB! I WILL NEED TIME FOR CALCULATIONS...
THEN BY ALL MEANS, TAKE THE TIME--WE WILL MAKE CONTACT AGAIN IN A LUNAR HOUR--AND GOOD LUCK!
MR. SPOCK-- SOMETHING IS TROUBLING YOU!
CURIOSITY, CAPTAIN! WHY DID THE UNOITES BUILD TWO SEPARATE SATELLITES! AND THEN...
CAPTAIN, SIR! THERE'S SOMETHING YOU SHOULD SEE IN THE NEXT ROOM!

JUST TWO ROBOT GUARDS--THEY'RE ALL OVER THE PLACE! THERE'S NOTHING UNUSUAL ABOUT THAT!
THAT'S WHAT WE THOUGHT, SIR-- UNTIL WE TRIED TO ENTER THE ROOM! WATCH THIS...
ALL THE OTHER TIN MEN HAVE BEEN FRIENDLY! BUT WHEN WE MOVED TOWARDS THE DOOR LIKE THIS...
LOOK OUT! THEY'RE LUNGING FOR YOU...
Y-YIPES!
THEY'VE... SNARED HIM!
WE CAN'T RISK A SHOT AT THOSE ROBOTS-- WE MAY HIT OUR MAN!
AND THEY MAY KILL HIM INSTANTLY ...BEFORE WE CAN ACT!
HMM-M... I HAVE AN IDEA, CAPTAIN! LET ME HAVE YOUR COMMUNICATIONS TRANSISTOR...
DENTON! YOUR CANTEEN WATER... SPLASH IT AT THE FEET OF THE ROBOTS...
YES SIR, MR. SPOCK!

ENOUGH! AND NOW LET'S GIVE THESE ROBOTS A HOT-FOOT!
I GET IT--THE WATER WILL ACT AS A CONDUCTOR FOR THE HIGH FREQUENCY BATTERY CHARGES OF OUR TRANSISTORS! BUT WILL THE CHARGE BE STRONG ENOUGH?
AT LEAST IT'S GIVING THEM A GOOD JOLT...
CONGRATULATIONS, MR. SPOCK--YOU MADE JUNK HEAPS OUT OF THEM!
AND NOW LET US LEARN WHAT IS BEHIND THAT DOOR--- IMPORTANT ENOUGH TO PROGRAM HOSTILITY INTO THOSE ROBOT GUARDS!
WHY...THIS MUST BE THE UNOITE WAR ROOM! BUT WHY WOULD A PEACEFUL RACE NEED SUCH A ROOM?
PERHAPS THE ANSWER CAN BE FOUND WITHIN THOSE TOP SECRET FILES, CAPTAIN!
THE CURIOUS HUMANS RUMMAGE THROUGH THE FILES--AND SUDDENLY FREEZE IN THEIR TRACKS AS...
HERE IS THE ANSWER TO OUR QUESTION, CAPTAIN--OBSERVE THESE PHOTOGRAPHS!
NO WONDER THEY PROGRAMMED THEIR ROBOTS TO GUARD THIS ROOM WITH THEIR MECHANICAL "LIVES"!

THE PLANET NUMERO UNO WAS ENGAGED IN A DEADLY WAR! THESE ARE NOT THE HELPLESS PEACE-LOVING PEOPLE THEY FEIGN TO BE!
THAT WOULD SEEM LOGICAL!
IT FOLLOWS THAT THEY WERE FORCED TO CALL A TRUCE WHEN THE DEADLY RINGS ENCIRCLED THE PLANET!
YES...
... AND ONCE WE HAVE FREED THEM OF THE YOKE OF PEACE, THEY WILL CONTINUE THE FIGHT! WE'LL HAVE TO SHAKE THEM UP A BIT!
AND AS THE TWIN SUPREMES APPEAR ON THE SCREEN AGAIN...
WHAT NEWS? CAN YOU HELP US?
ER... VERY WELL, CAPTAIN!
MEET US ABOARD OUR SHIP IN ONE HOUR! THIS IS URGENT! BE THERE!
AN HOUR LATER, THE CAPTAIN AND HIS MEN ARE BACK ABOARD THE ENTERPRISE...
THIS IS IT... A SUMMIT MEETING IN SPACE!

IF WE ELIMINATE THE DEATH RINGS FOR THEM WE WILL, IN ACTUALITY, BE STARTING A WAR!
QUITE LOGICAL!
BUT IF WE DO NOT AID THEM WE ARE, TECHNICALLY, KILLING THEM!
THAT LOGIC OF YOURS CAN BE DISTURBING AT TIMES, MR. SPOCK! OPEN THE AIR LOCKS!
THEN, A GRIM-FACED CAPTAIN CONFRONTS THE TWIN SUPREMES...
TAKE SEATS! I WILL BE ABRUPT AND TO THE POINT! I ACCUSE YOU OF DECEPTION...
I HAVE REASON TO BELIEVE YOU WANT YOUR PLANET POPULATED AGAIN ONLY TO DESTROY THE CITIZENS IN WAR!
B-BUT THAT IS NOT TRUE, CAPTAIN! WE WISH TO SAVE OUR PEOPLE!
YOU LIE! THESE PHOTOS PROVE YOU HAVE BEEN WARRING AGAINST EACH OTHER FOR HALF A CENTURY!
CAPTAIN! THEY ARE REACHING FOR WEAPONS!

STAR TREK The GHOST PLANET
PART II
AS TWIN SUPREMES OF THE PLANET NUMERO UNO ENTER THE ENTERPRISE, KIRK CONFRONTS THEM WITH THE PHOTOGRAPHIC EVIDENCE THAT THEY WERE AT WAR AND...
CEASE! I-I WILL NOT RESIST FURTHER!
INDEED, THEY ARE INSTINCTIVELY BRACED TO DO BATTLE! THE MOMENT YOU SHOWED THEM THE PHOTOGRAPHS THEIR HANDS FLEW TO THEIR WEAPONS, CAPTAIN KIRK!
ALL RIGHT, YOU TWO CHARACTERS! YOU WERE BATTLING EACH OTHER, WEREN'T YOU? EACH FIGHTING FOR CONTROL OF PLANET NUMERO UNO!
Y-YES...

AND THEN THE DOOM RINGS CAME AND YOU HAD TO STOP THE WAR TO SAVE BOTH YOUR NECKS?
WE... CAN NOT DENY THE FACTS!
HERE'S ANOTHER FACT! OUR JOB IS TO BRING PEACE TO THE GALAXIES! WE BELIEVE IT BEST TO LET YOUR CIVILIZATION DIE OUT!
NO... NO!
WHY NOT? IF WE MAKE IT POSSIBLE FOR YOU TO RETURN FROM THE SATELLITES YOU'LL JUST SLAUGHTER YOURSELVES ANYWAY!
BUT WE CANNOT DO THAT! THERE ARE NO WEAPONS LEFT!
WHAT FOOLS DO YOU THINK WE ARE? YOU'LL MAKE MORE WAR! NO... YOU REMAIN ON YOUR DYING SATELLITES!
WAIT! I HAVE A PLAN...
...LEAVE VISUAL DETECTORS OVER OUR MANUFACTURING AREAS! FROM SPACE YOU CAN OBSERVE US FOR YEARS! IF WE START TO BUILD AGAIN YOU CAN DESTROY US BY TIME DEVICES LEFT BEHIND!

WELL, SPOCK...
IT IS CONSTRUCTIVELY PUT! OUR WORK IS TO HELP PLANETS— NOT WATCH THEM DIE!
VERY WELL! RETURN TO YOUR SATELLITES AT ONCE! THE ENTERPRISE HAS WORK TO DO! YOU WILL BE INFORMED!
SPOCK..!
WITHIN THE LAB ROOM OF THE STAR SHIP ENTERPRISE KIRK AND SPOCK STUDY THE PROBLEM...
IF THE FULL FORCE OF OUR MAGNETIC GENERATORS CAN MAKE A CRACK IN ONE SECTION OF THE RINGS, BEND IT SHARPLY ENOUGH...
...WE MAY BE ABLE TO PULL ALL THE DOOM RINGS THROUGH IT INTO SPACE!
RIGHT, MR. SPOCK! THAT'S OUR ONLY SHOT! LET'S GO!
FIVE MINUTES LATER, THE FULL FORCE OF THE ENTERPRISE'S MAGNETIC GENERATORS ARE PROPELLED DOWNWARD...

A SECTION OF THE COPPER-FILLED RINGS BEND AS THE RAYS HIT...
BUT NOT STRONG ENOUGH! KEEP TRYING!
WE'RE GETTING A STRONG POSITIVE REACTION, CAPTAIN!
MINUTE AFTER MINUTE, THE POWERFUL MAGNETIC FORCE DRAWS UPON THE RINGS...
WE'VE FAILED! OUR MAGNETIC GENERATORS ARE BEING WEAKENED... FURTHER ATTEMPT IS USELESS!
PERHAPS THERE IS ANOTHER MEANS, CAPTAIN!
IF WE DREW THE POWER OF THE SATELLITES' MAGNETIC FIELD INTO OUR GENERATORS, THE ADDED POWER MIGHT...
YOU'VE HIT IT, MR. SPOCK! COMMENCE OPERATION!
QUICKLY, ELECTRONIC "RIFLES" ARE AIMED AT THE MAGNETIC FIELD OF THE TWIN SATELLITES...
IT'S WORKING, MR. SPOCK! WE'RE SUCKING IN THE MAGNETIC FIELDS!

WE'VE GOT THEM ALL...EVERY DEADLY RING! PREPARE TO CUT POWERS!
OF COURSE! OTHERWISE THEY WOULD COLLIDE WITH THE ENTERPRISE...ENTER OUR SHIP ITSELF!
AT THE PRECISE MOMENT, MR. SPOCK CUTS OFF THE POWER...
NOW! WE HAVE THEM GOING FAST ENOUGH TO CONTINUE, I BELIEVE, CAPTAIN!
OUT INTO DEEP SPACE THE NOW CONVULSING BEAMS STREAK...
...WHERE SOME MYSTERIOUS SOLAR ACTION BURSTS THEM ASUNDER...

WHILE WITHIN THE ENTERPRISE, JOYOUS WORD IS RECEIVED FROM THE TWIN SUPREMES...
WONDERFUL WORK, FRIENDS! WE SHALL RETURN TO OUR HOME AT ONCE!
NO, WAIT...
THERE MAY HAVE BEEN A DANGEROUS COPPER CONTENT DISCHARGED DOWN FROM THE REACTION! WE'LL TEST THE AREA FIRST!
I SHALL BRING THE TEST GEAR TO THE TRANSPORTING CHAMBER!
SOON AFTER...
IF THERE ARE SIGNS OF COPPER PENETRATION IT MAY BE YEARS BEFORE THEY CAN RETURN, MR. SPOCK!
WE SHALL SOON KNOW, CAPTAIN! THIS AREA HERE WAS MOST VULNERABLE!
SUDDENLY, A GEIGER COUNTER CLICKS...
COPPER RADIATION, MR. SPOCK?
NO, CAPTAIN!
CLICK CLICK CLICK CLICK CLICK
CLICK CLICK
...ATOMIC RADIATION, SIR--COMING FROM THAT AREA!

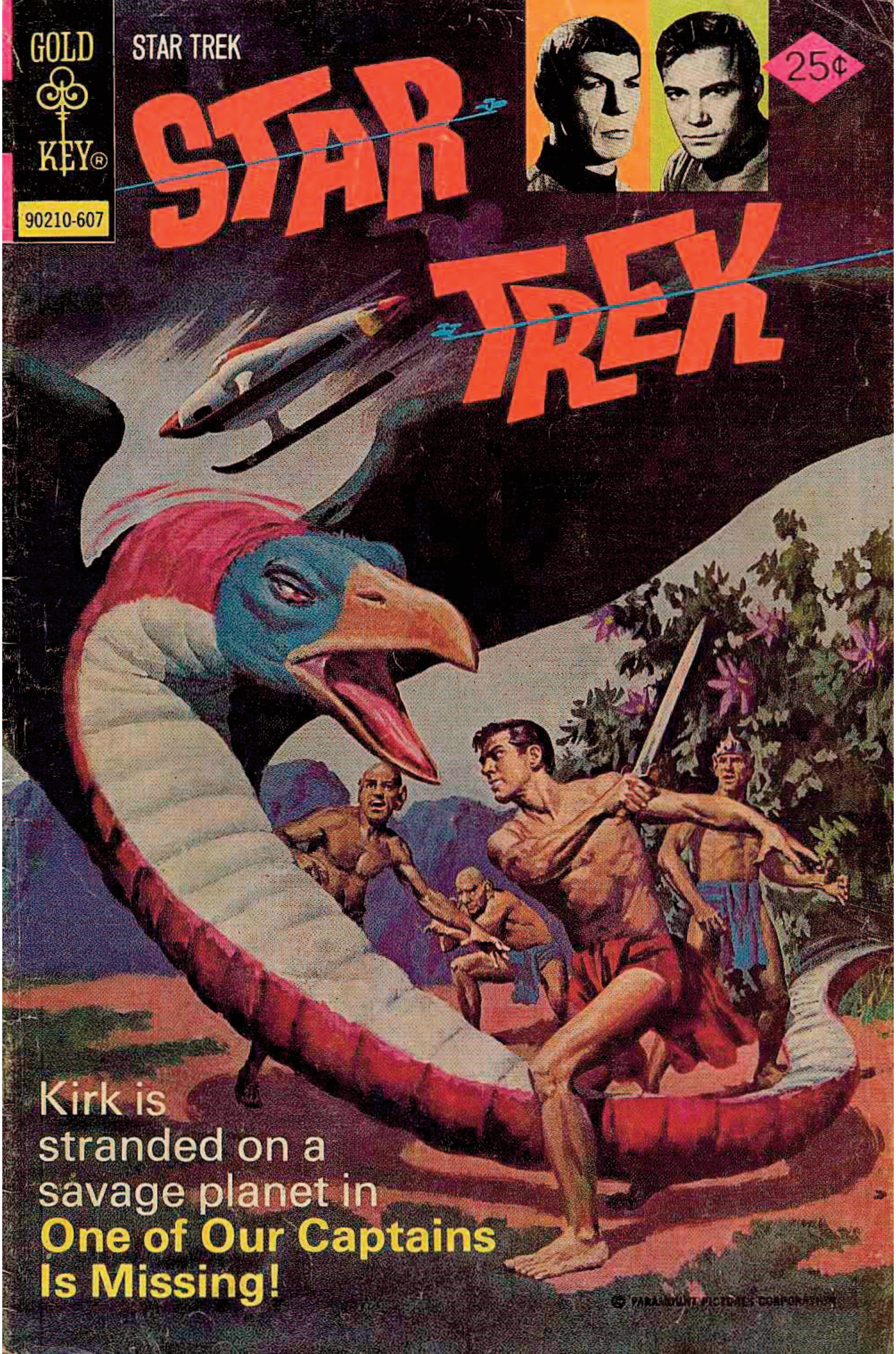
MEANWHILE, ON ONE OF THE MAN-MADE SATELLITES TWO SPACEMEN OBSERVE A SCANNER WITH CONCERN...
I... BELIEVE THEY HAVE LOCATED THE "NEST"!
GAR! LET US PRAY NOT!
BUT CAPTAIN KIRK AND MR. SPOCK HAVE CERTAINLY FOUND SOMETHING...
MUCH STRONGER... FROM WITHIN THE HILL!
THERE'S A CREVICE LEADING INSIDE THAT HILL! HURRY!
SLIPPING THROUGH THE OPENING, THE PAIR GAPE IN SHOCK AS...
INSTRUMENTS OF WAR, CAPTAIN!
B-BUT HOW ..., WHY?
THEN, AS THEY ENTER A VAST CAVERN...
THE PROPERTY OF THE TWIN SUPREMES... SEPARATED! GREAT SPACE GHOSTS! THEY CACHED THEIR WEAPONS FOR FUTURE USE!
PROPERTY JUSTIN II
CLICK CLICK CLICK CLICK CLICK CLICK CLICK CLICK CLICK
PROPERTY JUSTIN 1
THE RADIATION COUNT IS CLIMBING RAPIDLY!

URANIUM! OBVIOUSLY THEY WERE ON THE VERGE OF ATOMIC WARFARE BEFORE THEY HAD TO FLEE!
THE LYING SPACE SCUM! AND THEY SWORE TO US THERE WERE NO WEAPONS LEFT!
STRANGE! A PLANET ADVANCED ENOUGH TO MAKE ARTIFICIAL SATELLITES WITHOUT SIMPLE ATOMIC BOMB KNOWLEDGE!
I PREFER TO BELIEVE AN ATOMIC TRUCE HAD JUST BEEN BROKEN, CAPTAIN!
OTHERWISE THEY WOULD HAVE DESTROYED THEMSELVES LONG AGO!
MR. SPOCK! TROUBLE IN THE SKY!
SPACESHIPS FROM THE SATELLITES, CAPTAIN!
OF COURSE! THEY'VE BEEN TELE-SCREENING OUR ACTIONS! THEY KNOW WE'VE LOCATED THEIR "LIE"!
AND THEY INTEND TO DISPOSE OF US NOW THAT THE DOOM RINGS ARE GONE!

DESPERATELY, KIRK CONTACTS THE ENTERPRISE...
WE'RE TRAPPED, MR. SPOCK--WE CAN'T FIGHT THE ROCKET SHIP WEAPONS...
CAPTAIN TO ENTERPRISE! THROW THE TRANSPORTER SWITCH AT ONCE, DR. McCOY! WE'RE IN BIG TROUBLE!
BUT A MOMENT LATER...
I... CAN'T GET THROUGH, SIR! THE TRANSPORTER IS JAMMED SOMEHOW!
WE'VE HAD IT, SPOCK... THEIR SHIP'S ELECTRONIC FIELD HAS US STYMIED!
FACE DEATH LIKE MEN, STRANGERS FROM SPACE! YOU CANNOT HIDE!
SIR! I HAVE A THOUGHT...QUICKLY ...I MUST SPEAK TO THE SHIP! NO TIME TO EXPLAIN! TRY TO STALL THEM A MOMENT!
WHAT DOGS OF SPACE DESTROY THOSE WHO SAVE THEM, JUSTINS!
OF SUCH TRICKS ARE CONQUERORS MADE, KIRK! HA, HA!
SUDDENLY...
SPOCK??
HOLD FIRE! SHOOT AND YOU DESTROY YOURSELVES!

THE VISITOR SEEKS TO BLUFF US, JUSTIN II!
IT WILL NOT SAVE HIS LIFE, JUSTIN I!
WHAT I SAY CAN MOST CERTAINLY SAVE YOURS...
...OBSERVE FOR YOURSELVES... THERE IN THE HEAVENS ABOVE YOUR PLANET!
ABRUPTLY, THE PAIR GAPE IN AWE AS THEY LOOK SPACEWARD...
T-THE RAINBOW BANDS W-WITH COPPER DEATH... THEY HAVE RETURNED!
B-BUT HOW IS IT POSSIBLE? WE SAW THEM DESTROYED IN DEEP SPACE!
WH-WHAT IN THUNDER?
WHILE DESTROYING THE BANDS WE SOLVED THEIR SECRET! AT A MOMENT'S NOTICE WE CAN ENCIRCLE YOUR PLANET AGAIN WITH THEM!
NOW! EITHER DROP YOUR GUNS OR FIRE! IF WE DIE YOUR ENTIRE CIVILIZATION PERISHES!
NO...NO! YOU MAY GO FREE! JUST TAKE YOUR DEADLY BANDS WITH YOU!

MUST CLEAR THE ELECTRONIC FIELD FOR TRANSPORTING!
VERY WELL, JUSTINS, WE WILL ELIMINATE THE BANDS! BUT FIRST YOUR CRAFT MUST BE DISABLED TO KEEP YOU HERE!
HOWEVER SPOCK DID IT, I'D BEST FOLLOW THROUGH WITH HIM!
AND THEN YOUR SECRET WAR SUPPLIES MUST BE DESTROYED!
WE SHALL LEAVE A DETECTION DEVICE IN SPACE! SHOULD YOU WAR AGAIN THE DEATH BANDS RETURN FOREVER!
WHEW! SPOCK REALLY PULLED A RABBIT OUT OF THE HAT THIS TIME!
AND LATER...
THEY WERE TERRIFIED... THEY'LL CERTAINLY NEVER WAR AGAIN! BUT... HOW DID YOU RECREATE THOSE BANDS, SPOCK?
A MERE VISION, CAPTAIN KIRK! I HAD DR. McCOY PLAY THE FILMS WE MADE OF THE OPERATION BACK INTO THEIR ATMOSPHERE!
...THEY WERE SEEING A REFLECTION... A RAINBOW IN THE SKY! QUITE ELEMENTARY, REALLY!
WELL, THERE WAS QUITE A POT OF GOLD AT THE END OF YOUR RAINBOW, SPOCK! WE'VE STOPPED A WAR AND SAVED A CIVILIZATION ON THIS MISSION!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STAR TREK
25¢
Kirk is stranded on a savage planet in
One of Our Captains Is Missing!

STAR TREK

ONE OF OUR CAPTAINS IS MISSING!

A NEW COMMANDER FOR THE STARSHIP ENTERPRISE—AND A NEW AND DEADLY JOB FOR CAPTAIN KIRK! BUT THE CREW MAY NOT SURVIVE THE NEW COMMANDER! AND CAPTAIN KIRK MAY NOT—**SURVIVE!**

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CAPTAIN'S LOG: STAR DATE 19:29:13.
I was working out in the ship's gym when the message was received!
—AND CAPTAIN KIRK IS TEMPORARILY RELIEVED OF DUTY BY ORDER OF STAR FLEET COMMAND!
CAN YOU GIVE US ANY FURTHER DETAILS, SIR?
THE SAME SHIP DELIVERING YOUR NEW COMMANDER—CAPTAIN ZARLO—WILL RETURN CAPTAIN KIRK HERE!
ROGER, STARFLEET COMMAND!
ARE THEY OUT OF THEIR MINDS—TAKIN' CAPTAIN KIRK FROM US?
AS THEY SAY, "H.Q. WORKS IN MYSTERIOUS WAYS ITS WONDERS TO PERFORM!"
AYE! IF IT WAS YOU THEY WERE TAKIN', BONES, THEY WOULDN'T EVEN HAVE TO SEND US ANOTHER DOCTOR! JUST—
—A BOTTLE OF ASPIRIN AND AN AUTOMATIC NOISE-MAKER!
YA' HEARD, MR. SPOCK?
YES, I HAVE, MR. SCOTT!
AND HAVE YA' HEARD THAT THIS CAPTAIN ZARLO IS ONE OF THE MOST CHICKEN COMMANDERS IN THE SERVICE?
I SEE NOTHING HARMFUL IN EFFICIENCY, MR. SCOTT!

WE'RE LOSING THE BEST OFFICER IN THE SERVICE AND ALL YOU CAN SAY IS, "I SEE NO—"
AT EASE, DR. McCOY! I'VE BEEN EXPECTING THIS RECALL! PURELY ROUTINE! NOTHING TO BE DONE ABOUT IT!
NOTHING?! I SAY— EVERYTHING SHORT OF MUTINY!
AND I SAY–GET BACK TO YOUR ENGINES AND SEE THEY ARE IN ORDER FOR CAPTAIN ZARLO'S INSPECTION!
LATER, WHEN KIRK AND SPOCK ARE ALONE...
YOU SEEM QUITE AGITATED FOR A MAN WHO JUST RECEIVED A ROUTINE AND EXPECTED COMMAND!
SAY WHAT YOU WISH, MR. SPOCK! BUT DON'T TROUBLE THE OTHERS WITH YOUR THEORIES!
HE'S MORE UPSET THAN I REALIZED! WHAT IS WAITING FOR HIM?
THE FOLLOWING "DAWN", SHIP'S TIME!
I DON'T KNOW WHEN I'LL RETURN, FRIENDS! BUT I'M SURE IT WON'T BE LONG!
MEANWHILE, COOPERATE WITH YOUR NEW COMMANDER AS YOU WOULD WITH ME! AND—GOOD LUCK!

FOR HE'S A JOLLY GOOD FELLOW!
FOR HE'S A JOLLY GOOD FELLOW!
THEN, AS THE COMMANDER PRO-TEM IS PIPED ABOARD...
WEEEOOOOEEEEEEE!
PLEASURE TO MEET YOU, KIRK! FROM YOUR REPUTATION, I'M SURE I'LL FIND A PERFECT SHIP!
NOT PERFECT, CAPTAIN ZARLO, BUT A GOOD SHIP RUN BY A GOOD CREW!
SO LONG, MY FRIENDS!
LET'S HEAR IT! HIP-HIP-
HOORAY!
NOW, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN—YOU WILL FIND ME FAIR, BUT NOT SOFT!
PERHAPS YOU WERE WRONG ABOUT HIM, MR. SCOTT!
WE'LL BEGIN BY ORDERING A NUKE-MALFUNCTION-EMERGENCY DRILL EACH DAY—FOR FIVE DAYS!
N·M·E DRILL! UGLIEST WORK ON A STAR SHIP! STILL THINK I WAS WRONG, MR. SPOCK?
IF THERE ARE NO QUESTIONS, THEN YOU ARE ALL DISMISSED!

SOME DAYS LATER, ON THE PLANET MOBITA...
WELL, HERE COMES ONE OF THEM HORNED KAFRIANS!
YOU JUST SHIP IN FROM THERE?
OH, NO, I'VE BEEN AWAY FROM KAFRI FOR YEARS! HOW'S THE YULA WINE HERE?
WHAT D'YOU CARE? YOU HORN-HEADS COULD NEVER HOLD YOUR WINE! BET YOU CAME HERE—
—TO TELL US TO BE KIND TO TOGOTAS, RIGHT?
YOU KAFRIANS ARE ALL TOGOTA-LOVERS! 'CAUSE YOU'RE ALMOST AS FUNNY LOOKIN' AS THEY ARE!
LOOK, I JUST CAME IN TO RELAX, AND...
ALL RIGHT—HOW'S ABOUT I HELP YOU TO RELAX— —WITH THI-I-I-IS!
WHOPPP
THE KAFRIAN FINDS HIMSELF ON THE FLOOR, A SINGLE DROP OF BLOOD ON ONE LIP, AND EYES REFLECTING THAT BLOOD!

AND WHILE THE MOBIAN LOUDLY BOASTS...
DID YOU SEE ME SMEAR HIM? I COULD TAKE TEN OF THOSE—
SMACK!
THE MOBIAN SLAMS AGAINST A WALL AND BOUNCES BACK WITH...
—A **SZONKA** KNIFE! REAL GOOD FOR CUTTING KAFRIANS!
BUT A POLICE STUNGUN INTERCEDES...
ZZAMM
AND MOBIAN JUSTICE PROVES ALMOST AS BLIND AS ANY OTHER KIND!
WHY ME? **HE** KNOCKS ME DOWN AND PULLS A **KNIFE**—AND **I** GO TO THE COOLER?
TELL IT TO THE MAGISTRATE— TOMORROW!
DON'T WORRY— WE'LL GIVE YOU THE PRIME MINISTER'S SUITE! HA-HA!

ALONE IN THE STYGIAN CELL, THE PRISONER'S EYES SLOWLY ADJUST...
SORRY I HAD TO BRING YOU HERE THIS WAY—I'M PRIME MINISTER AADO!
PRIME MINIS—? OHH, THEN THAT WASN'T JUST THE GUARD'S JOKE!
NO, IT WAS ALL ARRANGED SO THAT WE COULD MEET IN TOTAL SECRECY!
YOU SEE, SOME OF MY OWN PEOPLE HAVE BECOME SPIES FOR THE TOGOTAS! BUT TELL ME—
—SINCE THE FEDERATION NEVER INTERFERES IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF OTHER WORLDS, WHY DID THEY AGREE TO SEND YOU, CAPT. KIRK?
BECAUSE, IN THE TOGOTAN REBELLION, WE SMELL KLINGONS!
AHHHH, I SEE! THEN THAT WOULD EXPLAIN THE MODERN WEAPONS THE TOGOTANS NOW POSSESS!
BUT PERHAPS I SHOULD START AT THE BEGINNING! MOBITA IS A YOUNG PLANET—YOUNGER THAN YOUR OWN EARTH, CAPTAIN!
"There are still several unexplored areas here! One, the jungle of Togo, was only recently 'opened' by us!"
CHEE CHEE
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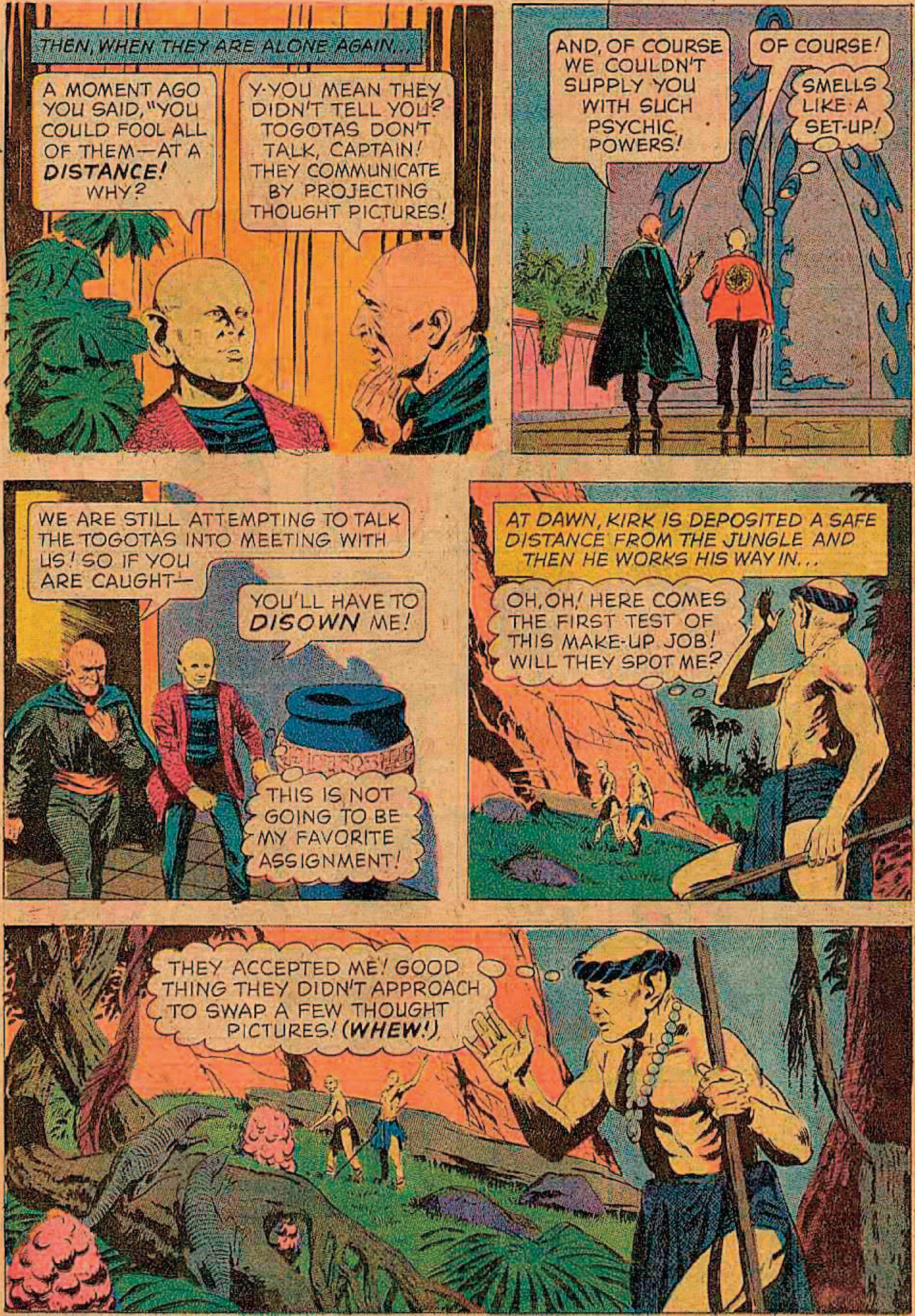
"And we had our first contact with the Togotas!..an ancient, isolated people, they were completely trusting!"
LOOK, EEROD! NO WEAPONS!
"More than that, they conveyed nothing but love and hospitality!"
"Which is why we first called them 'The Sweet People'!"
THEY ALSO PROVED TO BE EXTREMELY TALENTED ARTISTS—EVERY LAST ONE OF THEM! THIS IS A SELF-PORTRAIT BY THEIR CHIEF-MWIPI!
VERY FINE WORK! MUSEUM QUALITY!
ASSUREDLY! TWO YEARS AGO, THIS WAS BOUGHT FROM MWIPI FOR ONE POUCH OF TNOORY TOBACCO!
LAST WEEK I PAID 20,000 MOBIAN CREDITS FOR IT!
"That's how it started—exploiting their labor! Before it was over, kidnapping and murder were added!"
WITH A LITTLE TRAINING, THESE'LL COMMAND A GOOD PRICE AS SERVANTS!

"In time, the SWEET PEOPLE learned anger —and the use of modern weapons!"
"I tried to meet with them many times—but their well of trust had run dry!"
SO YOU BELIEVE THE KLINGONS SUPPLIED THE WEAPONS, EH? WE WONDERED!
YES, WE INTERCEPTED KLINGON COMMUNI-CATIONS INDICATING THAT THEY DROPPED A TEAM OF MILITARY 'ADVISERS' INTO THE JUNGLE A YEAR AGO!
MY JOB IS TO ENTER THE JUNGLE DISGUISED AS A TOGOTA AND PROVE THE KLINGONS ARE THERE!
I'LL SUPPLY AN EX-PERT WHO CAN 'MAKE YOU' INTO A TOGOTA! BUT YOU WILL HAVE TO SUPPLY THE COURAGE!
SEVERAL HOURS LATER...
IT'LL DO, I GUESS! BUT IF YOU'D JUST GIVEN ME A LITTLE MORE TIME TO MATCH THE BODY TONES—
IT'S AN EXPERT JOB, SIRONE! THANK YOU!


THEN, WHEN THEY ARE ALONE AGAIN...
A MOMENT AGO YOU SAID, "YOU COULD FOOL ALL OF THEM—AT A DISTANCE! WHY?
Y-YOU MEAN THEY DIDN'T TELL YOU? TOGOTAS DON'T TALK, CAPTAIN! THEY COMMUNICATE BY PROJECTING THOUGHT PICTURES!
AND, OF COURSE WE COULDN'T SUPPLY YOU WITH SUCH PSYCHIC POWERS!
OF COURSE!
SMELLS LIKE A SET-UP!
WE ARE STILL ATTEMPTING TO TALK THE TOGOTAS INTO MEETING WITH US! SO IF YOU ARE CAUGHT—
YOU'LL HAVE TO DISOWN ME!
THIS IS NOT GOING TO BE MY FAVORITE ASSIGNMENT!
AT DAWN, KIRK IS DEPOSITED A SAFE DISTANCE FROM THE JUNGLE AND THEN HE WORKS HIS WAY IN...
OH, OH! HERE COMES THE FIRST TEST OF THIS MAKE-UP JOB! WILL THEY SPOT ME?
THEY ACCEPTED ME! GOOD THING THEY DIDN'T APPROACH TO SWAP A FEW THOUGHT PICTURES! (WHEW!)

CAUTIOUSLY, KIRK PICKS HIS WAY THROUGH THE EXOTIC JUNGLE UNTIL...
ONE OF THEIR VILLAGES! AND LOOK AT THOSE MAGNIFICENT STATUES! WHAT A FABULOUS PEOPLE!
BUT SOON...
KLINGON SOLDIERS! I'VE FOUND THEM!
NOW LISTEN HERE, YOU'RE GOING TO HAVE TO DO A LOT BETTER IN QUICK-FIRE DRILL IF YOU ARE EVER GOING INTO REAL BATTLE!
YOU WANT TO GO INTO BONDAGE LIKE SO MANY OF YOUR BROTHERS? THEN GET CRACKING! WE CAN'T FIGHT YOUR LIBERATION WAR FOR YOU!
GOT HIM! JUST A FEW MORE SHOTS AND—
CLICK!
HE SENSES A PRESENCE BEHIND HIM EVEN BEFORE HE FEELS THE IRON GRIP!
A TOGOTA WITH A CAMERA? WHY? WHEN YOU CAN PROJECT ANY LOVELY PICTURE YOU WANT FROM YOUR HEADS? MAYBE IT'S BECAUSE—
R-R-R-RIP
—YOU'RE NO TOGOTA TRIBESMAN AT ALL!
I GUESS THAT'S WHY!

QUICKLY, KIRK IS DRAGGED TO THE LARGEST STRUCTURE IN THE VILLAGE!
YOU ARE MWIPI, AREN'T YOU? PLEASE GIVE ME A CHANCE TO EXPLAIN! I COME IN PEACE—
BUT THE MUTE CHIEFTAIN SIGNALS FOR SILENCE...
AND THEN...
HE'S TELLING ME I'M ABOUT TO BE JUDGED! AT LEAST THEY HAVE A JUSTICE CONCEPT!
GREAT RINGS OF SATURN! IS THAT WHAT THEY CALL A—JUDGE? WHAT KIND OF GRIM FARCE IS THIS?
AT THAT SAME MOMENT, FAR OUT IN SPACE...
ALL RIGHT, YOU'VE SQUEEZED THREE MINUTES OFF YOUR N-M-E DRILL! BUT—
BUT WHAT? WE'VE SET A NEW RECORD FOR THE DRILL IN STARSHIP SERVICE AND YOU'RE STILL PUSHING?
BECAUSE THE PREVIOUS RECORD WAS OBVIOUSLY SET BY A CREW EVEN LAZIER THAN THIS ONE, MR. SCOTT!
AHH, CAPTAIN KIRK, I'D SWAP PLACES WITH YOU IN A SHOT—NO MATTER WHERE YOU ARE OR WHAT YOU'RE DOIN'!
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STAR TREK ONE OF OUR CAPTAINS IS MISSING
PART TWO: WISH UPON A STARSHIP
CAPTAIN ZARLO'S PERSONAL LOG. STAR DATE 19:29:24. Ship's crew still continues to reject me! My compliments to the personal charms of Captain Kirk—wherever he may be!
AND, IN A MAKESHIFT JUNGLE ARENA, CAPTAIN KIRK STANDS FACE TO FACE WITH THE LOCAL JUSTICE OF THE PEACE!
SOME JUSTICE! HE'S JUDGE AND LORD HIGH-EXECUTIONER COMBINED!
THE "SWEET PEOPLE" HAVE LEARNED VIOLENCE AND MAYHEM FROM EXPERTS—KLINGONS!

AT THE ULTIMATE MOMENT, KIRK IS ALSO SUPPLIED WITH WEAPONS...
I GUESS THESE ARE SUPPOSED TO MAKE IT A FAIR FIGHT! BUT WHAT IF I WIN?
ALWAYS THE OPTIMIST, EH, CAPTAIN?
'JUDGE' NDARPO BEGINS THE 'TRIAL' WITH AN OPENING RUSH!
DON'T LET ME STAND IN YOUR WAY!
UH-H-H-H
YOU'RE FAST ENOUGH ON YOUR FEET, NDARPO!
BUT I'M PRETTY FAST— OFF MINE!
EVEN AS KIRK RAISES HIS CLUB OVER THE FALLEN WARRIOR...
JUNGLE BEAST!! HEADING STRAIGHT FOR ME!!
IF YOU WANT TO USE THIS PATH—I'M NOT GOING TO STAND IN YOUR WAY! HUNNNH!

BUT, WITH THE NEXT SECOND...
(GASP!) THE THING JUST VANISHED IN THE AIR! IT WAS—
POP!
—AN ILLUSION PROJECTED BY NDARPO TO CONFUSE ME!
THEN, FROM ANOTHER DIRECTION...
ANOTHER JUNGLE BEAST ILLUSION! BUT I CAN'T IGNORE IT BECAUSE I DON'T KNOW WHEN HE'S GOING TO RUN IN A REAL ONE!
RESTRAINING HIMSELF UNTIL THE ULTIMATE MOMENT, KIRK UNLEASHES A MIGHTY SWORD STROKE!
SWISSSHHHH
ANOTHER ILLUSION! BUT I CAN'T WIN AGAINST THEM! NOT WHEN ANY ONE OF THEM COULD PROVE TO BE REAL!
FUELED BY DESPERATION, KIRK FLINGS HIMSELF UPON THE TRIBAL CHIEFTAN!
STAND BACK— ALL OF YOU— OR YOUR CHIEF WILL DIE!
TELL THEM TO STAY PUT WHILE YOU AND I LEAVE, MWIPI!
GOOD WORK, CHIEF! NOW— WE GO!

WITH HIS LIVE, ROYAL 'SHIELD,' KIRK RETREATS TO THE JUNGLE'S EDGE...
ALL RIGHT, I'M LEAVING YOUR LAND NOW! BUT BEFORE I GO I WANT YOU TO UNDERSTAND WHO YOUR KLINGON 'PARTNERS' REALLY ARE!
THEY'LL HELP YOU TO GAIN CONTROL OF THE PLANET— AND THEN YOU'LL BE THEIR PUPPETS!
WHATEVER YOU HAVE OF VALUE —YOUR ART, YOUR LABOR, YOUR VERY LIVES—THEY'LL TURN INTO CASH! AND POWER!
THEY'VE DONE IT TO COUNTLESS WORLDS! WHAT MAKES YOU THINK YOURS WILL BE DIFFERENT?
I'VE WARNED YOU! NOW, MY PLANE IS HERE! GOOD LUCK, MWIPI! YOU'LL NEED IT!
THE MUTE CHIEFTAIN WATCHES WITHOUT EMOTION AS KIRK ENTERS THE PLANE AND...
MWIPI LINGERS A MOMENT TO WATCH HIS 'ENEMY' DEPART, AND THEN HE DISAPPEARS INTO THE JUNGLE...
AN OLD TRICK, CHIEF! IN THE FRONT DOOR AND OUT THE BACK! BUT THE POINT IS—
—I DON'T GIVE UP THAT EASILY! NOT WHEN THERE'S A WHOLE WORLD AT STAKE!

AS KIRK REMOVES THE MINI-TRANSCEIVER TO REPORT TO MOBIAN H.Q....
DESTROYED! DURING THAT TRIAL-BY-COMBAT! IF I DON'T REPORT IN, THEY'LL MARK ME "DEAD ISSUE"! THAT WAS THE AGREEMENT!
BUT MY JOB ISN'T DONE! AND THE KLINGONS MUST BE STOPPED! SO WHERE'S THE CHOICE? I'VE GOT AN OPTION—WITHOUT AN OPTION!
SOME HOURS LATER, ABOARD THE ENTERPRISE!
—IT'S ADDRESSED TO CAPTAIN ZARLO, MR. SCOTT. "THE WILY TURK HAS MISSED HIS BEARD!"
IT'S LIKE NO CODE I'VE EVER HEARD, SULU. YET IT REMINDS ME OF SOMETHING—WAY BACK!
—WILY TURK MISSED HIS BEARD—?
HOOT, MON! I'VE GOT IT—AN OLD COCKNEY TRICK! FOLKS WHO LIVED IN LONDON USED RHYMING SLANG! BOTTLES AND STOPPERS WAS—COPPERS!
—WILY TURK— CAPTAIN KIRK! AND—MISSED HIS BEARD—
DISAPPEARED!
SOON...
WELL, I ASSUME I'M FREE TO TELL YOU NOW! CAPTAIN KIRK WAS ON AN ANTI-KLINGON ASSIGNMENT ON PLANET MOBIA!
AND HE'S VANISHED! THEN WE MUST FIND THE MON!

NO! MY ORDERS ARE TO MAINTAIN OUR SCHEDULE!
SIR, WE'RE THE CLOSEST STARSHIP TO THE MOBIA SECTOR! I SAY WE FIND HIM! AND I THINK I'M NOT ALONE!
SUDDENLY, THE NEW COMMANDER REALIZES THAT THE ROOM IS FILLED WITH CREW MEMBERS!
HOW ABOUT YOU, MR. SPOCK? YOU'RE CAPTAIN KIRK'S EXEC— AND CLOSE TO HIM AS ANYONE!
YES LT. SULU! BUT I ALSO HAVE A STAR FLEET OATH TO UPHOLD!
OH, YOU DO, EH? THEN LET'S SEE HOW THE OTHERS FEEL!
HOW MANY ARE WITH ME —TO FIND CAPTAIN KIRK?
ONLY TWO HANDS REMAIN UNRAISED—MR. SPOCK'S AND THE NEW COMMANDER'S!
THEN WE ASK YA, SIR! WHAT'S IT TO BE? WILL YA SUPPORT THE MAJORITY—OR WILL YA TURN US ALL INTO MUTINEERS?!
I'VE NEVER EARNED THIS KIND OF RESPECT FROM ANY CREW UNDER ME! I THINK THE CAPTAIN DESERVES HIS REWARD!
HURRAHHH
ON TO— MOBIA!

...AND ON THE TARGET WORLD.
BRAVE WARRIORS OF THE TOGOTA, YOU ARE READY TO WAGE BATTLE AGAINST YOUR OPPRESS-ORS—THE MERCILESS MOBIANS!
AND MORE—YOU ARE READY TO **WIN**!
BUT KING MWIPI IS NOT CONVINCED! HE THINKS LONG AND HARD...THEN...
YOU'RE AFRAID YOUR MEN ARE OUTNUMBERED AND WILL BE SLAUGHTERED! DON'T WORRY—
—IF YOU'RE IN DANGER, I'LL CALL IN FORCES FROM OUR SHIPS!
AND, NOT FAR OFF, A SILENT OBSERVER READS MWIPI'S THOUGHT PICTURES TOO!
NICE WORK, MWIPI! HE'S TELLING THE KLINGON THAT HE WANTS HIS PEOPLE TO LIBERATE THEM-SELVES—NO OUTSIDERS!
BUT THERE'S NO WEAPON WE COULD SUPPLY YOU WITH THAT WOULD GUAR-ANTEE VICTORY! ONLY A ZETA BOMB COULD—
—AND THAT'S TOO COMPLICATED FOR YOUR PEOPLE TO HANDLE! I SWEAR IT!
THAT'S A **LIE**, KLINGON SOLDIER!
THE SPY! KILL HIM! **KILL HIM**!

BUT BEFORE HIS TRIBESMEN CAN ACT, MWIPI FLASHES ANOTHER THOUGHT!
HE SAYS THEY MUST STOP! HE WILL HEAR ME!
LISTEN TO WHO— A LYING SPY?!
BUT BEFORE THE KLINGON CAN DRAW HIS WEAPON, HE FINDS HIMSELF FACING HIS OWN GUNS!
WELL, OF COURSE, IF YOU PREFER TO HEAR HIM, MWIPI—
I'M QUITE WILLING!
THE ZETA-12, WHICH IS FOUND ON EVERY KLINGON SHIP OF WAR, IS SMALL ENOUGH AND SIMPLE ENOUGH TO BE DELIVERED BY A CHILD!
THERE IS NO SUCH BOMB!
KLINGONS CAME HERE TO HELP YOU, MWIPI! THIS MAN WORKS FOR THE MOBIAN ENEMY!
I HAVE BEEN IN CONTACT WITH THE MOBIANS, BUT ONLY TO BRING PEACE TO YOUR PEOPLES!
MWIPI CONSIDERS THE OPPOSING ARGUMENTS AND FINALLY...
THEN YOU'RE AS GOOD AS DEAD!
HE SAYS WE MUST PROVE WHO SPEAKS THE TRUTH—IN COMBAT!

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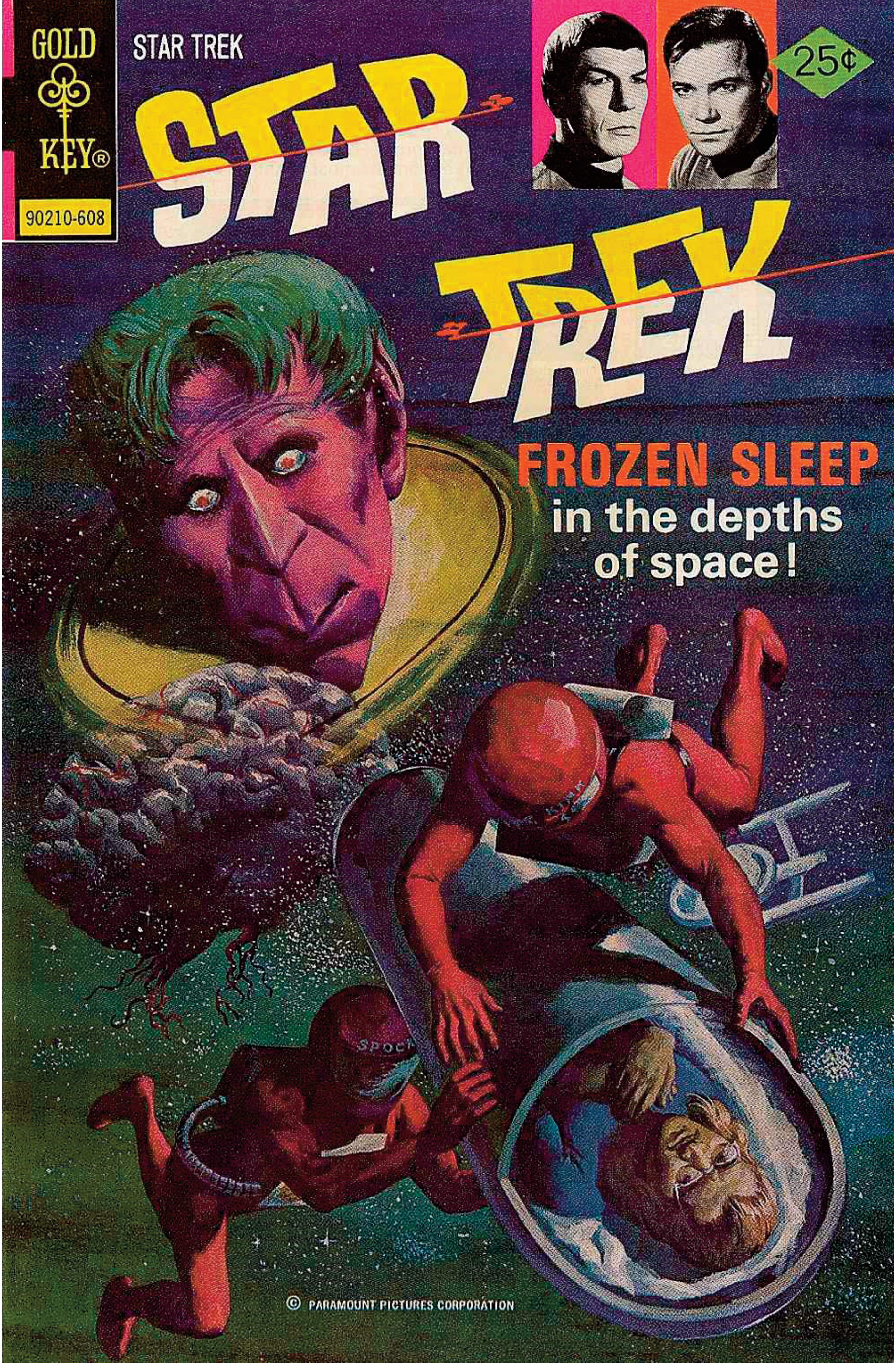
HE SAYS WE MUST **PROVE** WHO SPEAKS THE TRUTH—IN COMBAT!
THEN YOU'RE AS GOOD AS DEAD!

WARILY, THE GALACTIC ENEMIES MOVE INTO POSITION FOR AN OPENING BLOW!
MWIPI IS BEGINNING TO SEE THROUGH YOU, KLINGON! HE KNOWS IF YOU WITHHELD THE ULTIMATE WEAPON, IT WAS TO MAKE YOURSELVES THE NEW MASTERS!
SHUT YOUR MOUTH, SPACE DOG!
YOU WANT HIS TROOPS TO BE MASSACRED, SO THAT YOUR SHIPS CAN INVADE IN THE GUISE OF "LIBERATORS"!
I SAID— SHUT IT! UGGGH!
MAYBE THIS WILL STOP YOUR TONGUE!
ARRRGH! IF YOU GAVE THEM A SUPER BOMB TO LIBERATE THEM-SELVES—YOU COULD NEVER RULE OVER THEM EITHER! UGGGH!
BLOOD POUNDING IN HIS TEMPLES, KIRK SUMMONS ALL HIS RESOURCES FOR ONE MIGHTY THRUST!

A TINY ELECTRONIC DEVICE SUDDENLY APPEARS IN THE FALLEN KLINGON'S HAND!
A-A-ALL RIGHT, YOU HAVE ME! BUT WITH ONE SIGNAL FROM ME, MY SHIP WILL BLOW THIS WHOLE JUNGLE INTO DUST!
IF MY MISSION FAILS—NO ONE MUST BE LEFT ALIVE TO TELL OF IT!
NO! STOP!
AND, AT THAT VERY MOMENT...
WE ARE NOT AUTHORIZED TO OPEN FIRE—EVEN ON A KLINGON SHIP—UNLESS FIRST FIRED UPON!
I AM, OF COURSE, AWARE THAT THE CAPTAIN IS CORRECT. BUT IF, IN THE PROCESS OF A NORMAL DRILL, ONE RAY CANNON—
—SHOULD MIS-FIRE—A SHOT ACROSS THE KLINGON BOW, SIR! NOT A SCRATCH ON HER, MIND YOU!
BUT ONE THEY'D INTERPRET AS A WARNING SHOT, EH? YES, MR. SPOCK, I BELIEVE A ROUTINE FIRE TEST IS IN ORDER!
MY COMPLEMENTS TO THE GUN CREW, MR. SPOCK! THE FINEST NEAR-MISS I'VE EVER SEEN!
FEDERATED STARSHIP! MUST NOT BE DISCOVERED! EXPOSE SECRET MISSION—ALL BE HANGED!

BUT OUR JUNGLE TEAM— THEY'VE SIGNALED US TO MAKE A BOMBING RAID! WE CAN'T LEAVE THEM TO DIE!
THE DEVIL WITH THEM! WE'VE OUR OWN NECKS TO SAVE!
HURRAY!
SOME DAYS LATER...
AS I PROMISED, YOU ARE BEING RECEIVED IN PEACE AND WITH HONOR, MWIPI!
LET THERE BE PEACE BETWEEN OUR PEOPLES!
IT'S AN IMAGE OF PEACE AND FRIENDSHIP AMONG HIS PEOPLE, MR. PRIME MINISTER!
THAT WILL BE OUR FIRST JOB —TO LEARN HOW TO TALK TOGETHER! THANK YOU, CAPTAIN KIRK!
AND LATER...
I'LL TELL YOU THIS, CAPTAIN KIRK, I'D TRADE SIX MONTHS LEAVE FOR A CREW THAT WOULD STAND BY ME AS YOURS DOES!
I DON'T THINK THEY SWAP THAT SORT OF THING, CAPTAIN! BUT IF I HEAR OF ANY OFFERS, I'LL BE IN TOUCH!
YOU KNOW, ZORLA TURNED OUT TO BE A BETTER COMMANDER THAN ANYONE FIGURED! SO YOU CAN BE REPLACED, CAPTAIN!
WE ALL CAN BE REPLACED! EVEN AN EXCELLENT SHIP'S DOCTOR— DOCTOR!


GOLD KEY
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STAR TREK
25¢
STAR TREK
FROZEN SLEEP
in the depths
of space!
SPOCK
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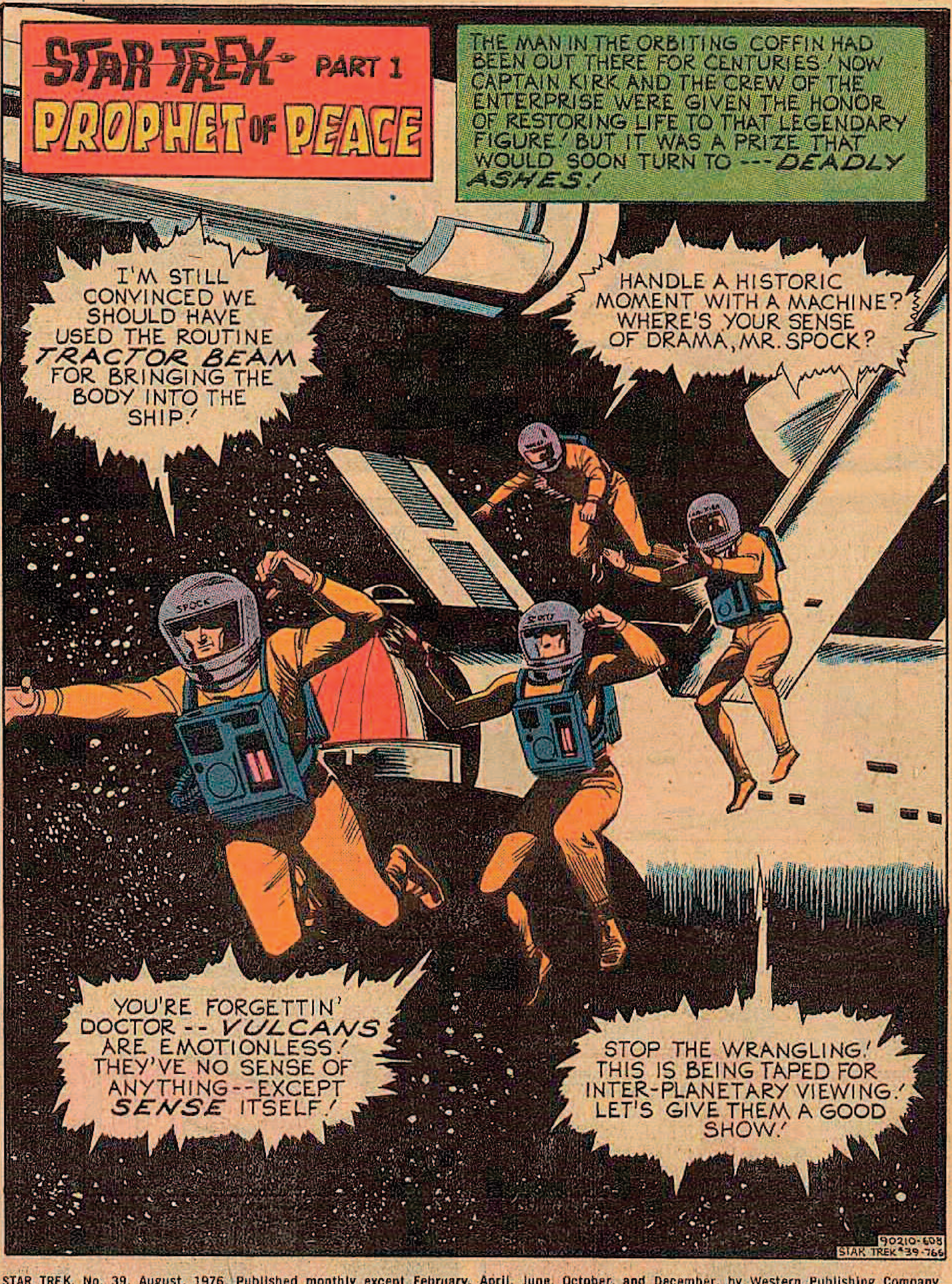

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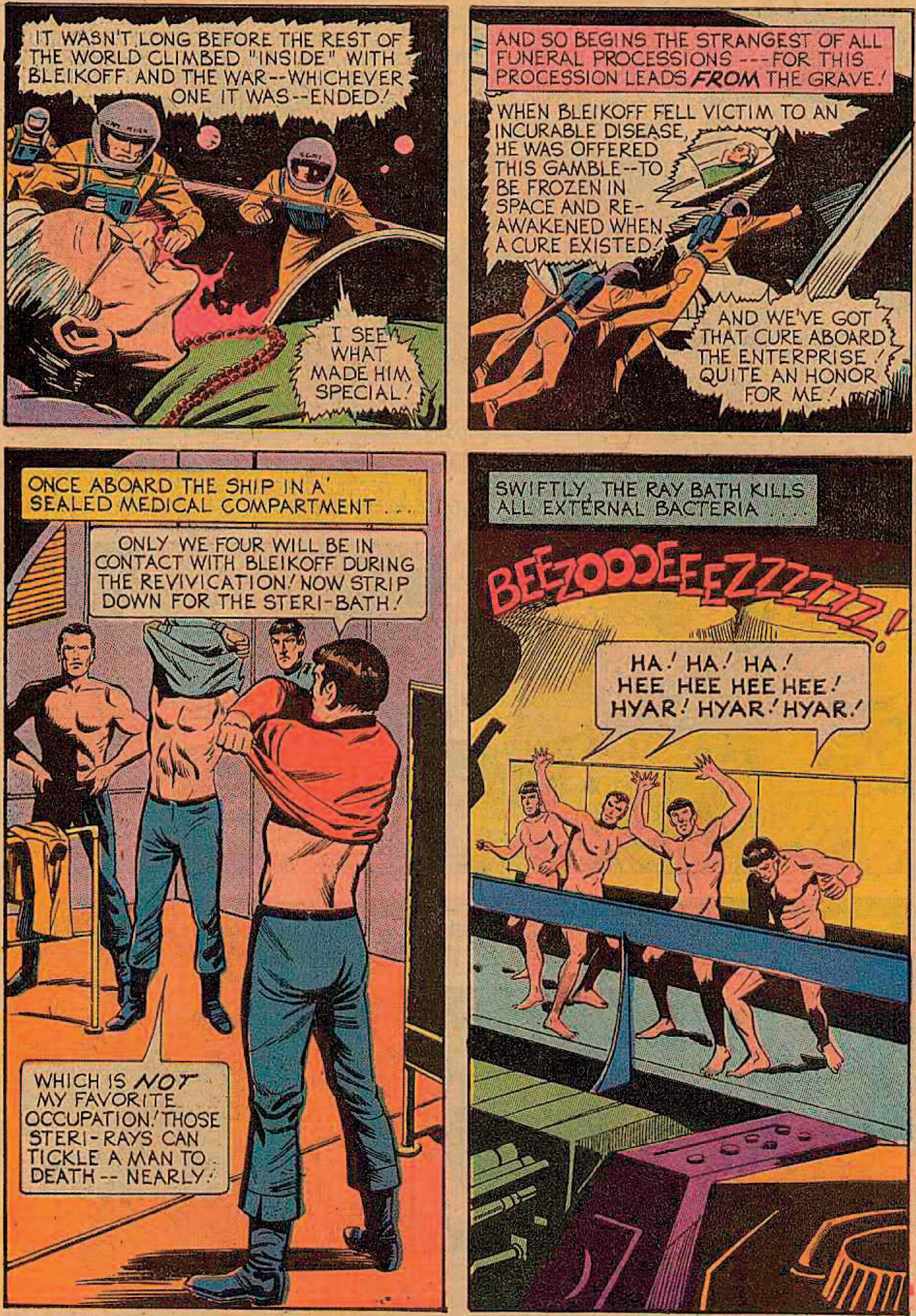
CAPTAIN'S LOG, STAR DATE .. 18:06.9 . A HISTORIC MOMENT LAY JUST AHEAD OF US WITHIN THAT COFFIN IN SPACE ...
THERE HE IS! LOOKS LIKE HE'S JUST BEEN TAKING A NAP!
HE HAS! A VERY LONG NAP! I WONDER WHAT HE'LL THINK OF THINGS WHEN HE AWAKENS! OR SHOULD I SAY --- IF?
THAT'S A BIG IF! HE WAS THE FIRST MAJOR EFFORT IN CRYONICS!* THE TECHNIQUE WAS TERRIBLY CRUDE THEN!
* CRYONICS: THE SCIENCE OF FREEZING LIVE TISSUE FOR RESTORATION AT A FUTURE TIME.
HOW COME HE RATED THE EFFORT, CAPTAIN? THERE WERE PLENTY OF OTHER BIG-DOMES IN HIS DAY!
YES, BUT HE WAS MORE THAN A GREAT SCIENTIST!..
ALFRED BL
HIS WAS A SPECIAL KIND OF SPIRIT!
"THERE WAS THAT NIGHT IN STOCKHOLM WHEN HE RECEIVED THE NOBEL PRIZE FOR ..."
.. FOR HIS THEORY OF THE ORIGIN OF THE UNIVERSE! ASTRONOMERS TELL ME IT IS PURE POETRY! BUT I MUST TAKE THEIR WORD FOR IT!
NOBEL
HA-HA-HA-HA-HA!
I GIVE YOU THIS YEAR'S WINNER OF THE NOBEL AWARD IN ASTRO-PHYSICS, DR. ALFRED BLEIKOFF!
I-- I'M SORRY, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN! DR. BLEIKOFF IS NOT HERE!

HE MAY HAVE BEEN DELAYED BY THE CROWD OF WAR PROTESTORS OUTSIDE THE BUILDING! BUT MY MEN --
--WILL FIND DR. BLEIKOFF SHORTLY AND DELIVER HIM SAFELY TO THIS HONORED GATHERING!
STOP THE WAR!
STOP THE WAR!
GET THE OLD ONE FIRST! HE SEEMS TO BE THEIR LEADER!
"THEY FOUND HIM AT DAWN, TEACHING --IN A STRANGE CLASSROOM!"
--AND IF YOU PEACE LOVERS ABANDON THE SCIENCES, THEY WILL BE DOMINATED BY MEN WHO CREATE ATOMIC AND BACTERIAL WEAPONS!
GOOD GRIEF, DR. BLEIKOFF --WHAT ARE YOU DOING IN THERE?
MAKING MY MEAGER PROTEST AGAINST AGRESSION! AND, TO PARAPHRASE THOREAU --- WHAT ARE YOU DOING OUTSIDE, PROFESSOR SELLERS?
RIGHT ON, DR. B!


IT WASN'T LONG BEFORE THE REST OF THE WORLD CLIMBED "INSIDE" WITH BLEIKOFF AND THE WAR--WHICHEVER ONE IT WAS--ENDED!
I SEE WHAT MADE HIM SPECIAL!
AND SO BEGINS THE STRANGEST OF ALL FUNERAL PROCESSIONS ---FOR THIS PROCESSION LEADS FROM THE GRAVE!
WHEN BLEIKOFF FELL VICTIM TO AN INCURABLE DISEASE, HE WAS OFFERED THIS GAMBLE--TO BE FROZEN IN SPACE AND RE-AWAKENED WHEN A CURE EXISTED!
AND WE'VE GOT THAT CURE ABOARD THE ENTERPRISE! QUITE AN HONOR FOR ME!
ONCE ABOARD THE SHIP IN A SEALED MEDICAL COMPARTMENT . . .
ONLY WE FOUR WILL BE IN CONTACT WITH BLEIKOFF DURING THE REVIVICATION! NOW STRIP DOWN FOR THE STERI-BATH!
WHICH IS NOT MY FAVORITE OCCUPATION! THOSE STERI-RAYS CAN TICKLE A MAN TO DEATH -- NEARLY!
SWIFTLY, THE RAY BATH KILLS ALL EXTERNAL BACTERIA . . .
BEEZOOOEEEZZZZZZZ!
HA! HA! HA!
HEE HEE HEE HEE!
HYAR! HYAR! HYAR!

WITH THE OTHERS ASSISTING, DR. McCOY BEGINS THE LIFE RESTORATION . . . . .
ALL RIGHT, WE'LL BEGIN WITH BLOOD RE-CYCLING! OPEN IT UP!
RIGHT! I'LL GET THIS END, CAPTAIN!
THE GREAT MOMENT IS CHARGED WITH TENSION AS THE COFFIN'S SEAL IS BROKEN AND THEN . . . .
CRRRRACKLE!
KWOOOM!
THE FLASH EXPLOSION INJURES LITTLE MORE THAN THEIR PRIDE . . . .
WHAT IN BLAZES CAUSED THAT?
SOME BUILD UP OF STATIC ELECTRICITY, I ASSUME! KEEP IN MIND THAT THIS WAS THEIR FIRST SUCH EXPERIMENT! MISTAKES WERE INEVITABLE!
FOLLOWING THE BLOOD RECYCLING, A JOLT OF REVITALIZING ENERGY IS DELIVERED!
SCREEEOOOORRR!
THAT'S IT! NOW ALL WE CAN DO IS WAIT!
MINUTES TICK BY, EACH ONE WITHERING AWAY AT THEIR HOPES FOR SUCCESS!
IT'S NO GOOD! NO GOOD! HE SHOULD HAVE SHOWN SOME LIFE SIGNS BY NOW!

WAIT! WAIT ONE NANNO-SECOND, YA' FAITHLESS FOOLS!
SEE THERE! ONE EYE -- IT'S OPENING!
GOOD DAY! I---I WONDER IF I MIGHT HAVE A--CUP OF TEA?
WORD QUICKLY MOVES THROUGH THE SHIP AND THE MOMENT THE QUARANTINE IS LIFTED ...
HOW DO YOU RATE OUR POLICY OF NON-INTERFERENCE IN THE DEVELOPING STAR SYSTEMS, SIR?
AND OUR BALANCE OF INDIVIDUAL FREEDOM AND GOVERNMENT POWER?
WAIT! WAIT!
I KNOW NOTHING ABOUT YOUR WORLDS -- YET! BUT CIVILIZATION IS MERELY THE SUM OF ITS PEOPLE --- AND I SEE SOME VERY FINE PEOPLE HERE!
WE ARE AWAITING INSTRUCTIONS AS TO THE PRECISE TIME AND LOCATION OF YOUR OFFICIAL RECEPTION, DR. BLEIKOFF!
AHHH, YES! ALL THAT FUSS AND NONSENSE! I HATE OFFICIAL RECEPTIONS!
CAPTAIN -- MAY I BEG A FAVOR?

BEFORE ALL THE RECEPTIONS AND INTERVIEWS, COULDN'T I TAKE AN ANONYMOUS TRIP AROUND THE EARTH I ONCE KNEW ?
IMPOSSIBLE, DOCTOR! YOU'RE TOO IMPORTANT A MAN TO BE TREATED THAT WAY.!
OHH! GIVE HIM A BREAK, CAPTAIN!
IT'S NOT UP TO THE CAPTAIN, LT. SULU! IF H.Q. SAYS IT'S THE RED CARPET TREATMENT -- THAT'S IT!
IF HE WANTED TO, HE COULD DO IT! I'VE SEEN HIM HANDLE H.Q. BEFORE! WE ALL HAVE!
WATCH YOUR INSINUATIONS, LIEUTENANT! YOU'RE SAYING THAT THE CAPTAIN ---
--OUGHT TO GIVE DR. BLEIKOFF A BREAK! AND WE'RE ALL SAYING IT!
THAT'S RIGHT!
WELL I'LL BE --! THIS IS PRACTICALLY A -- MUTINY!
FOR ONE SILENT MOMENT THE CREW'S ANGER SMOULDERS -- AND THEN DIES!
ALL RIGHT, LIEUTENANT! I'LL GIVE IT A TRY! BUT I PROMISE NOTHING!

LATER...
I'VE NEVER SEEN THE CREW LIKE THAT BEFORE, CAPTAIN! THEY WERE POSITIVELY DEFIANT!
WELL, DR. BLEIKOFF WAS A VERY PERSUASIVE MAN IN HIS "FIRST" LIFE! APPARENTLY HE STILL IS!
PERHAPS THAT EXPLAINS IT! BUT-- I DON'T KNOW! THERE WAS A STRANGE QUALITY TO THEIR SUDDEN ANGER!
OR DID I ONLY IMAGINE IT?
AND SOON...
GOOD NEWS, DOCTOR! WE'VE GOTTEN YOU FIVE DAYS OF ANONYMITY! WE'LL BE YOUR ESCORTS IN A SECRET TRIP AROUND EARTH!
SPLENDID! SPLENDID!
AT A SOUND FROM BEHIND HIM, CAPTAIN KIRK WHIRLS TO FIND...
FOR HE'S A JOLLY GOOD FELLOW! THE CAPTAIN'S A JOLLY GOOD FELLOW!
I SUPPOSE I DID MISJUDGE THEM, CAPTAIN!
AND SO, THE RIP VAN WINKLE-OF-SPACE TOURS THE WORLD HE LEFT SO LONG AGO!
THE EIFFEL TOWER--HEMMED IN NOW, BUT STILL IMPRESSIVE! WHAT'S THAT BALL THEY'VE ADDED?
PART OF A WORLD-WIDE SYSTEM AGAINST INVASION FROM SPACE! E.D.S., EARTH DEFENSE SCREEN!

THE WORLD TOUR CONTINUES . . . .
THE STATUE USED TO BE ON AN ISLAND! WHY DID YOU MOVE IT?
WE DIDN'T! WE FILLED IN MOST OF NEW YORK HARBOR! LAND IS AT A PREMIUM TODAY, DOCTOR! SO WE MUST CREATE IT!
INCREDIBLE! THE WORK YOU HAVE DONE TO RECLAIM THE DESERT WAS BEYOND OUR WILDEST IMAGININGS IN MY TIME!
LATER, ABOVE SNOW-CAPPED PEAKS . . .
AHHH! I'M GLAD TO SEE THERE IS AT LEAST ONE SPOT ON EARTH THAT HAS REMAINED AS I KNEW IT!
CORRECTION! I SEE YOU HAVE ANOTHER OF THESE GREAT METAL SPHERES HERE!
YES! THEY'RE SPREAD AROUND THE WORLD AT VARIOUS HIGH POINTS!..
. . . E.D.S. IS FUNDAMENTAL TO EARTH SECURITY!
WITH ONE DAY OF THE SECRET JOURNEY LEFT, THEY ARRIVE IN BOMBAY . . . . .
WAIT! DR. BLEIKOFF! I RECOGNIZE YOU! RAJIPUR OF INTER-PLANETARY PRESS!
I'M AFRAID THE GAME IS OVER!
SIGH! I DID SO WANT TO SEE THE TAJ MAHAL UNDER ITS AIR-CONDITIONED DOME!

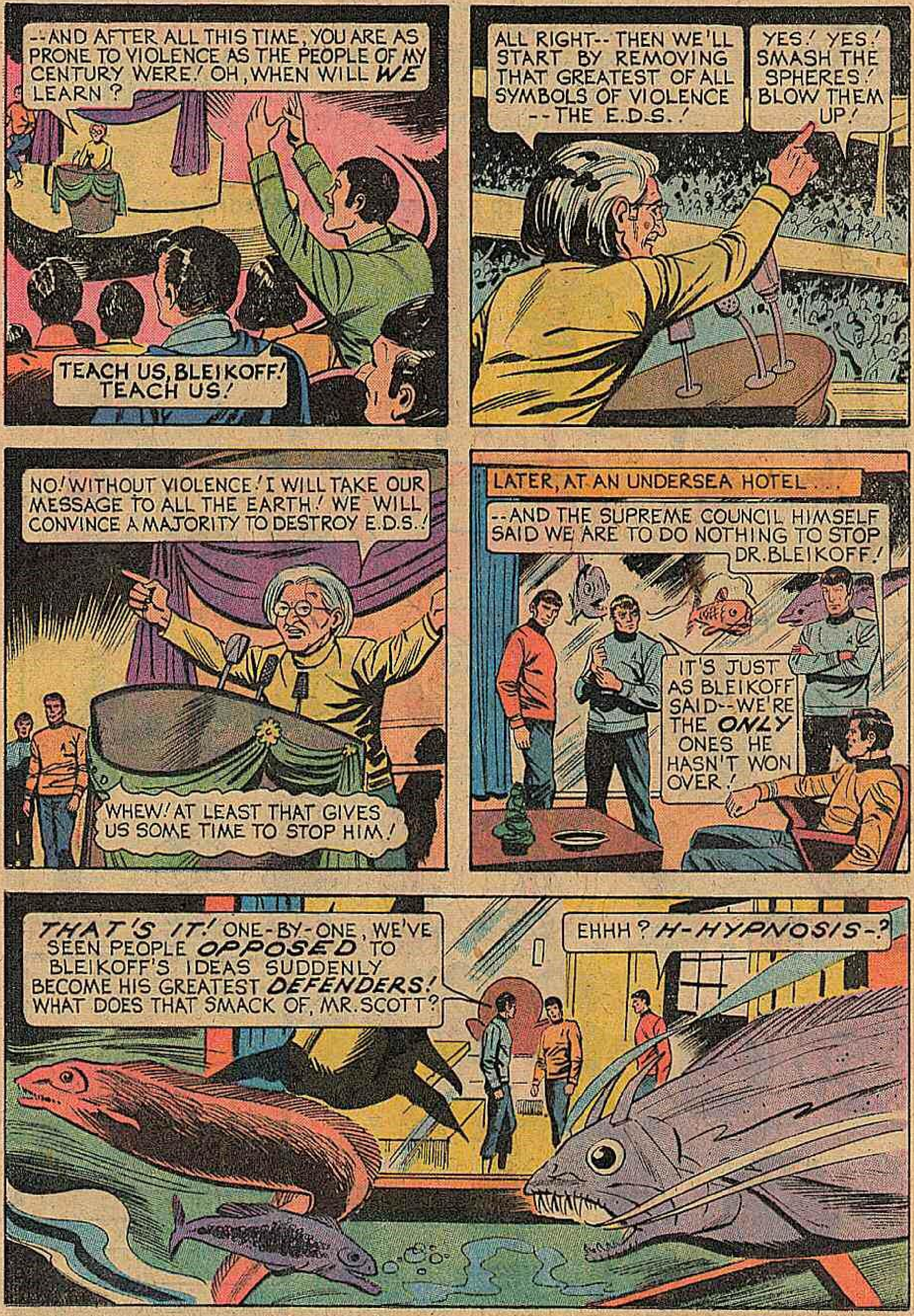
AND SO A FULL-SCALE PRESS RECEPTION IS HELD...
YOU HAVE BEEN MOST COMPLIMENTARY TO OUR MODERN WORLD, DOCTOR! BUT SURELY NOT ALL THINGS YOU SAW PLEASED YOU!
IT WOULD BE QUITE PRESUMPTUOUS OF ME TO CRITICIZE A WORLD I HARDLY KNOW! BUT ---
--- IF I HAD TO MAKE ONE HARSH JUDGMENT, I'D SAY THAT I FIND THE WORLD COLDER THAN WHEN I LEFT IT! I SPEAK OF AN ABSENCE OF HUMAN WARMTH!
YOU HAVE BEEN "ALIVE" FOR FOUR DAYS --AND YET YOU SPEAK WITH SUCH AUTHORITY OF HOW COLD AND HEARTLESS WE ARE! YOU ARE A FRAUD, DOCTOR!
YOU ARE ABSOLUTELY RIGHT, MY FRIEND! I HAVE NO CREDENTIALS FOR SUCH A JUDGMENT!
A BRIEF GLANCE PASSES BETWEEN THE TWO MEN AND THEN...
NO! NO, DOCTOR! I WAS MERELY JESTING! ACTUALLY, I AM IN FULL AGREEMENT WITH YOUR FEELINGS! OUR WORLD IS NEARLY LOVELESS!
WHAT? MAKE UP YOUR MIND, WILL YOU?
AND A NEWS-ADDICTED UNIVERSE GOBBLES UP THE BLEIKOFF INTERVIEW.
SPACE NEWS
BLEIKOFF SAYS: "LOVE IS DEAD"
--THIS MOST ASTOUNDING ANALYSIS FROM THE-MAN-FROM-THE-PAST!
AND SO THE BLEIKOFF CONTROVERSY SNOWBALLS!

THEN, AT A PUBLIC RECEPTION IN ROME . . .
AS I STAND AMID THE RUINS OF A CIVILIZATION EVEN OLDER THAN MY OWN, I RECALL A VISIT I MADE TO A CLASS OF EIGHT-YEAR-OLDS TODAY!
I WAS STAGGERED TO REALIZE THAT THOSE CHILDREN--EVERY ONE OF THEM, --KNOW MORE MATHEMATICS THAN I DO! AND I AM A MATHEMATICIAN!
SO -- WHAT CAN I TEACH A WORLD LIKE YOURS?
NO, BLEIKOFF! YOU ARE RIGHT! WE ARE WRONG!
HELP US, DOCTOR! SHOW US HOW TO BRING BACK LOVE!
BRING BACK LOVE! BRING BACK LOVE! BRING BACK LOVE!
I HAVE THAT FEELING AGAIN, CAPTAIN! THE SAME FEELING I HAD ABOARD THE SHIP WHEN THE CREW CHALLENGED YOU!
IT MUST BE CONTAGIOUS, MR. SPOCK! I'M STARTING TO FEEL VERY UNEASY MYSELF!

LATER, IN THE CHAMBERS OF THE SUPREME COUNCIL . . . .
-- AND, A MOMENT LATER, THEY WERE HUGGING AND KISSING EACH OTHER! 20,000 STRANGERS!
YES! APPARENTLY HIS CHARISMA REMAINS IRRESISTIBLE EVEN IN OUR TIME!
FRANKLY, MR. COUNCILLOR, I CAN RESIST HIM! I MEAN HE REALLY HAS A MOUNTAIN OF NERVE TELLING US HOW TO RUN OUR WORLD!
AND EQUALLY FRANKLY, MR. SCOTT, THE SUPREME COUNCIL AGREES WITH YOU!
IT IS MY DUTY TO EXPLAIN TO THE GOOD DOCTOR --- GENTLY BUT FIRMLY --- THAT WE DO NOT CARE FOR HIS HASTY PROCLAMATIONS!
I THINK WE'RE ALL RELIEVED TO HEAR THAT!
AND, AS THE DOCTOR IS USHERED IN . . .
BUT I HOPE HE GOES EASY ON THE OLD BOY! I MEAN, WE CAN'T FORGET WHAT HE MEANT TO THE PAST!
AND, AFTER A BRIEF TWO-MAN MEETING. . .
Y-Y-YA' MEAN YOU DIDN'T TELL HIM TO SOFT PEDAL THOSE SPEECHES OF HIS?
ACTUALLY--NO! YOU SEE I FOUND THAT I WAS IN COMPLETE AGREEMENT WITH EVERYTHING DR. BLEIKOFF STANDS FOR!

STAR TREK PART 2
PROPHET OF PEACE
CAPTAIN'S LOG: 18:06.9. OUR ASSIGNMENT -- TO SHOW THE EARTH OF TODAY TO A GREAT MAN FROM YESTERDAY IS QUICKLY LOSING ITS CHARM!
ANOTHER GREAT LANDMARK OBSCURED BY "PROGRESS", EH? AND ALWAYS THE EARTH DEFENSE SCREEN SPHERE TO MOCK THE LANDSCAPE!
AND TO GUARANTEE THE SAFETY OF EARTH -- A KEY PLANET IN THE FEDERATION!

IN ALL THE TIME I LAY SLEEPING, DIDN'T YOU LEARN THE FUTILITY OF VIOLENCE?
YES! BUT ALSO--THAT THE BEST OF INTENTIONS MUST BE DEFENDED OR THE WORST WILL PREVAIL!
WELL SPOKEN, SPOCK!
PEACE CANNOT BE GAINED THROUGH WAR--NO MORE THAN YOU CAN GIVE HEALTH BY SPREADING DISEASE!
AND THAT'S EXACTLY WHAT ANTI-TOXINS ARE--DISEASES THAT DESTROY DISEASES!
STRANGE THAT YOU FOUR--MY SAVIOURS--ARE LEAST ENTHUSED BY MY IDEAS! HOWEVER--I'VE MADE AN IMPORTANT DECISION! TO DESTROY THOSE SPHERES OF FEAR AND HATE!
WHAT-T-T?
THAT NIGHT, IN MARIANA CITY, 30,000 FEET BENEATH THE PACIFIC . . .
--MORE THAN A PLEASURE--A LIFETIME PRIVILEDGE TO INTRODUCE A MAN FOR ALL CENTURIES--DR. ALFRED BLEIKOFF!
HOOORAAAH!
LET'S HOPE HE CHANGES HIS MIND ABOUT E.D.S.
NOT A CHANCE! HE'S AS STUBBORN AS HE IS BRILLIANT!


--AND AFTER ALL THIS TIME, YOU ARE AS PRONE TO VIOLENCE AS THE PEOPLE OF MY CENTURY WERE! OH, WHEN WILL WE LEARN?
TEACH US, BLEIKOFF! TEACH US!
ALL RIGHT-- THEN WE'LL START BY REMOVING THAT GREATEST OF ALL SYMBOLS OF VIOLENCE --THE E.D.S.!
YES! YES! SMASH THE SPHERES! BLOW THEM UP!
NO! WITHOUT VIOLENCE! I WILL TAKE OUR MESSAGE TO ALL THE EARTH! WE WILL CONVINCE A MAJORITY TO DESTROY E.D.S.!
WHEW! AT LEAST THAT GIVES US SOME TIME TO STOP HIM!
LATER, AT AN UNDERSEA HOTEL...
--AND THE SUPREME COUNCIL HIMSELF SAID WE ARE TO DO NOTHING TO STOP DR. BLEIKOFF!
IT'S JUST AS BLEIKOFF SAID--WE'RE THE ONLY ONES HE HASN'T WON OVER!
THAT'S IT! ONE-BY-ONE, WE'VE SEEN PEOPLE OPPOSED TO BLEIKOFF'S IDEAS SUDDENLY BECOME HIS GREATEST DEFENDERS! WHAT DOES THAT SMACK OF, MR. SCOTT?
EHHH? H-HYPNOSIS-?

SOMETHING LIKE THAT! MASS HYPNOSIS -- PROBABLY THROUGH RADIO!
Y-YOU MEAN DR. BLEIKOFF TRANSMITS HYPNOTIC RADIO WAVES? B-BUT WHY?
LET ME, MR. SPOCK! SUPPOSE THAT -- SOME TIME AFTER THE E.D.S. WAS CREATED, EXPLORERS FROM SOME DISTANT STAR SYSTEM DISCOVERED BLEIKOFF'S "COFFIN"!
"THEIR COMPLICATED MINDS QUICKLY UNDERSTOOD WHY BLEIKOFF WAS 'BURIED' IN SPACE!"
-- SOONER OR LATER EARTHMAN WILL DISCOVER A CURE FOR HIS DISEASE AND RETURN THIS GREAT MAN TO LIFE!
AND SOON THIS BRILLIANT MAN WILL CONVINCE THEM ALL TO ABANDON THEIR DEFENSE SCREEN! THAT IS, HE WILL --
-- WHEN WE HAVE FINISHED WITH HIM!
"WE CAN ASSUME THAT A SOPHISTICATED OPERATION WAS PERFORMED!"
WHEN THE EARTHMEN "AWAKEN" HIM, OUR DR. BLEIKOFF WILL AUTOMATICALLY TRANSMIT HYPNO-BEAMS THAT WILL MAKE HIM THEIR MASTER!

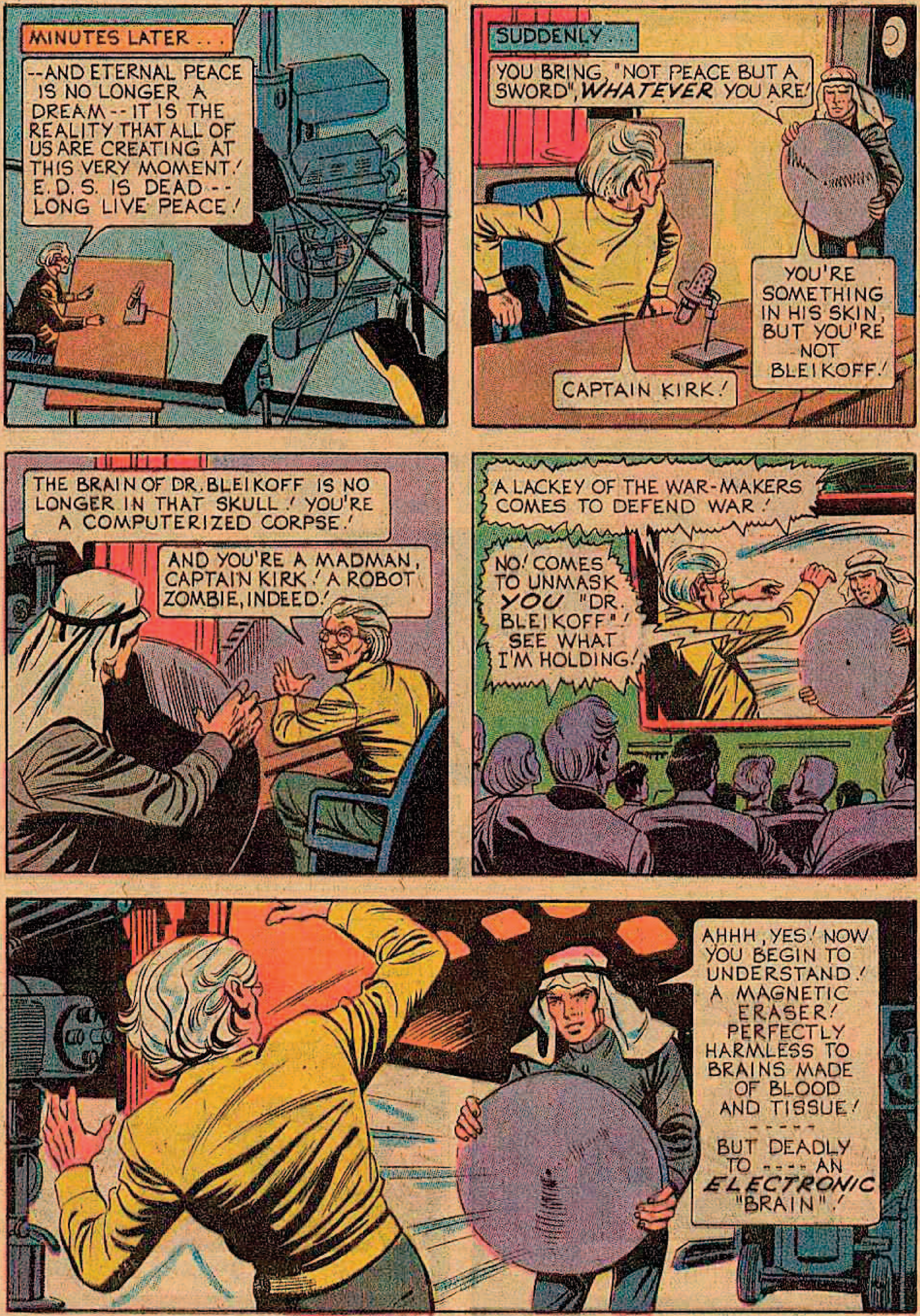
GREAT STORY! ONLY HOW COME THOSE HYPNO-BEAMS DIDN'T AFFECT US?
I'VE BEEN THINKING ABOUT THAT SINCE MR. SPOCK BEGAN HIS THEORY! BLEIKOFF WITH A "ROBOT" BRAIN WAS A KIND OF DELAYED BOMB ---
--THAT COULD GO OFF WHEN EARTHMEN DISCOVERED THE CURE FOR THE DISEASE, WHICH COULD TAKE CENTURIES! SO PROVISION WAS MADE FOR A LAST MINUTE CHECK OF BLEIKOFF WHEN AN EARTH SHIP WOULD APPROACH!
"TO PREVENT THEIR OWN CREATURE FROM BEING HYPNOTIZED THEY BUILT IN AN IMMUNITY RAY! REMEMBER WHAT HAPPENED WHEN WE OPENED THE COFFIN?"
K'WAMMM!
"OUR 'ALIENS' NEVER MADE THEIR CHECK! WHERE WERE THE MEN FROM 'PLANET X' WHEN OUR STARSHIP APPROACHED? TAKE YOUR PICK---"
"OBLITERATED IN ONE OF THEIR OWN WARS OF CONQUEST! OR ---"
"--A CIVILIZATION GROWN TOO OLD, WORN OUT! OR --"

--ANY ONE OF A DOZEN OTHER EXPLANATIONS FOR WHAT WIPED THEM OUT!
I DON'T BUY IT! IT'S TOO FANTASTIC!
WHAT IS MR. SCOTT?
UH -- MR. SPOCK WAS CLAIMING THAT ROSES GROW 20 FEET TALL ON VULCAN-
MORE LIKE ORCHIDS, MR. SCOTT! AND CLOSER TO 40 FEET!
YOU MUST SHOW ME! OH, THERE'S SO MUCH I WANT TO SEE -- ONCE E.D.S. IS DISMANTLED!
LATER, IN NEW CHICAGO . . .
I'VE DECIDED TO DELIVER MY APPEAL FOR ETERNAL PEACE FROM--JERUSALEM! FITTING, EH!
HOORAY FOR BLEIKOFF! DOWN WITH E.D.S.!
YOU STILL THINK BLEIKOFF IS ON THE LEVEL? MAYBE THE HYPNO-BEAM GOT THROUGH TO YOU, TOO!
MY NOSE, IT DID! I'M JUST NOT GOING TO CONVICT A GREAT MAN ON NOTHING BUT A PAPER THEORY!

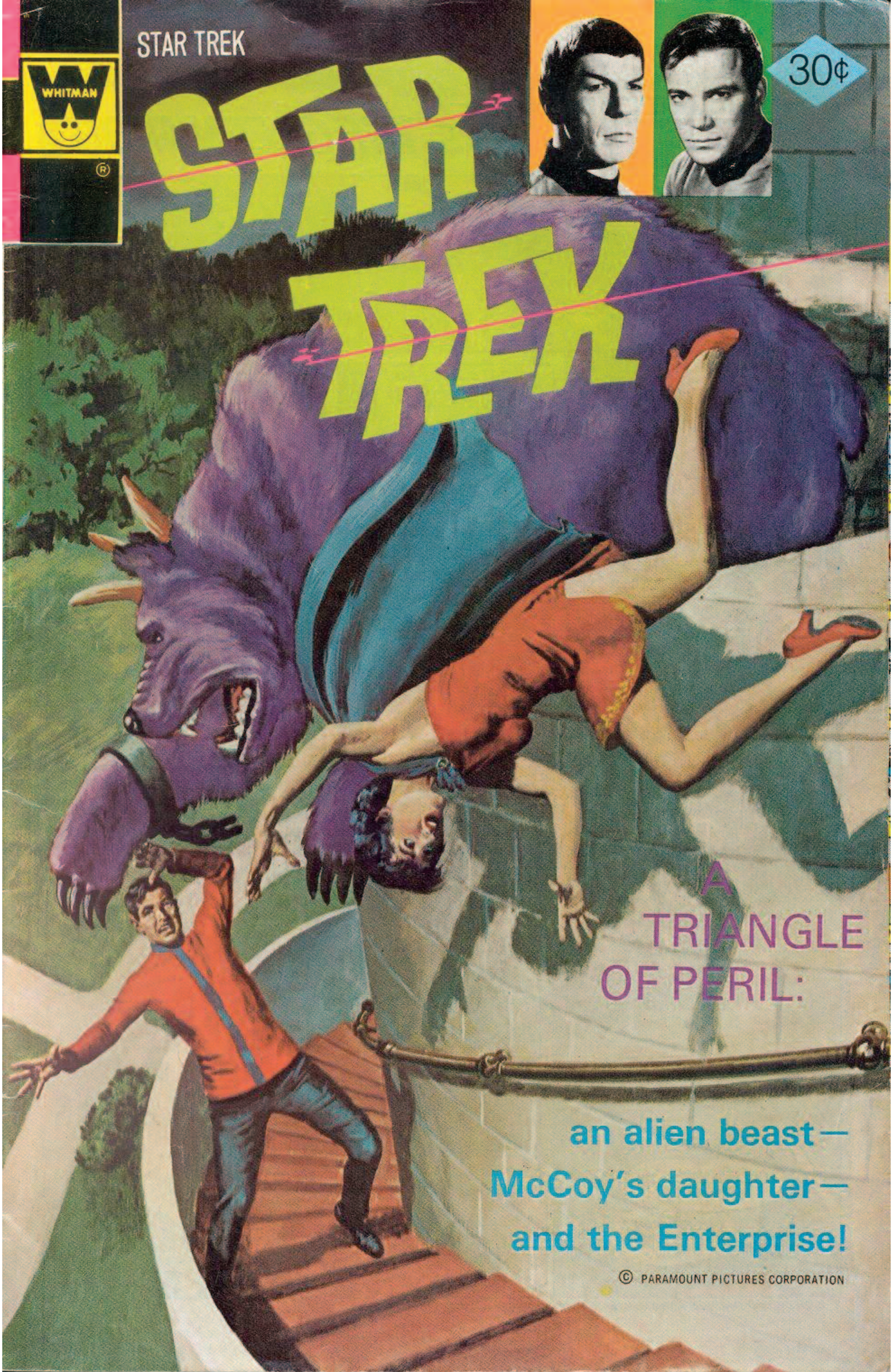
LATER, AT O'HARE ROCKET PORT . . .
SORRY, SIR! THERE MUST BE AN X-RAY EXAMINATION OF ALL LUGGAGE AND PERSONS BOARDING SHIP!
X-RAY?! WHY IT'S BEEN YEARS--
KEEP IT DOWN, SCOTTY!
DR. BLEIKOFF'S RAGE POURS FORTH . . . .
NEVER! X-RAY INSPECTION? A TOTAL INVASION OF PRIVACY! HOW DARE YOU! DO YOU KNOW WHO I AM? DO YOU? D-O-O-O Y-O-O-OUUU?
NEVER MIND! I'M STAR-SHIP CAPTAIN KIRK! LET THIS MAN THROUGH WITHOUT INSPECTION!
RIGHT, CAPTAIN! OF COURSE, SIR! SOME MISTAKE! BEG PARDON!
O.K., I'M SOLD! THAT OLD X-RAY MACHINE SCARED BLEIKOFF OFF HIS ROCK! IT WOULD HAVE SHOWN A COMPUTER-BRAIN IN HIS SKULL!
GLAD YOU AGREE--FINALLY! LUCKY WE RAN INTO THAT MACHINE!
GOOD WORK, OFFICER! I'M SURE IT WASN'T EASY FINDING THAT OLD X-RAY EXAMINER! HERE'S A DONATION FOR THE PORT INSPECTORS' ASSOCIATION!
THANK YOU, DR. McCOY!
AH-HAAAA!

TWENTY MINUTES LATER, AT JERUSALEM..
DR. BLEIKOFF? I AM MAYOR ABDULA!
AND I AM GENERAL HERSHKOQITZ, HEAD OF SECURITY! WE WILL ACCOMPANY YOU TO THE RADIO STATION!
EXCELLENT! BUT THESE FOUR MEN MUST BE PLACED IN PROTECTIVE CUSTODY UNTIL MY SPEECH IS DONE!
W-W-WH-A-A-A-T?
YOU WOULD PROBABLY TRY TO STOP MY SPEECH! AND MY SUPPORTERS MIGHT HARM YOU! I COULDN'T BEAR THAT!
SHORTLY, AT THE STUDIO..
TIME FOR MY SPEECH! THANK YOU FOR THE STUDIO TOUR, MR.--- MY, MY! WHAT IS THAT ODD-LOOKING DISC-DEVICE?
A MAGNETIC ERASER! WITH IT, OLD VIDEO TAPES CAN BE CLEANED AND REUSED!
THEN, AS THE SPEECH COMMENCES . . . .
-- I SPEAK TO YOUR TIME -- TO THE WORLD OF MY GREAT-GREAT-GREAT-GRAND-CHILDREN! I ASK YOU TO GO FORTH AND ---

-- AND TAKE COMMAND OF YOUR NEAREST E.D.S. SPHERE! USE NO FORCE, OF COURSE!
ON TO THE EIFFEL TOWER! DOWN WITH THE SPHERE!
USE ONLY THE FORCE OF HONEST AND DETERMINED CONVICTION!
BLOW UP THE SPHERE ON TOP OF LIBERTY! BLEIKOFF KNOWS WHAT'S RIGHT!
LET'S GO, BONES! WHAT TOOK YOU SO LONG?
I HAD TO CHECK THE COP YOU SLUGGED! HE'LL LIVE BUT HE WON'T SMILE FOR A MONTH!
LOOK AT THIS MOB! WE'RE THE ONLY ONES LEFT WHO DON'T THINK BLEIKOFF INVENTED PEACE -- AND LOVE!
SMASH THE E.D.S. SPHERE! ON TO MOUNT HEBRON!
IF THE E.D.S. IS DESTROYED, EARTH IS OPEN TO INVASION FROM ANY ROGUE PLANET -- AND THERE ARE ENOUGH OF THOSE!
LET US THROUGH! PLEASE LET US THROUGH!
DESTROY THE SPHERE!


MINUTES LATER . . .
--AND ETERNAL PEACE IS NO LONGER A DREAM -- IT IS THE REALITY THAT ALL OF US ARE CREATING AT THIS VERY MOMENT! E.D.S. IS DEAD -- LONG LIVE PEACE!
SUDDENLY . . .
YOU BRING, "NOT PEACE BUT A SWORD", WHATEVER YOU ARE!
YOU'RE SOMETHING IN HIS SKIN, BUT YOU'RE NOT BLEIKOFF!
CAPTAIN KIRK!
THE BRAIN OF DR. BLEIKOFF IS NO LONGER IN THAT SKULL! YOU'RE A COMPUTERIZED CORPSE!
AND YOU'RE A MADMAN, CAPTAIN KIRK! A ROBOT ZOMBIE, INDEED!
A LACKEY OF THE WAR-MAKERS COMES TO DEFEND WAR!
NO! COMES TO UNMASK YOU "DR. BLEIKOFF"! SEE WHAT I'M HOLDING!
AHHH, YES! NOW YOU BEGIN TO UNDERSTAND! A MAGNETIC ERASER! PERFECTLY HARMLESS TO BRAINS MADE OF BLOOD AND TISSUE! ----- BUT DEADLY TO ---- AN ELECTRONIC "BRAIN"!

WITH A FLIP OF A SWITCH, THE MAGNETIC ERASER COMES TO LIFE . . .
REEEOOOOEEEEEEE!
REE!
CRACKKKLE!
HZZZ
PE-E-EACE!
PE-EEE-YEZZ!
PE-YAA-EEEEZ!
PEE-YAA-YAA-YA!
THAT WAS NOT DR. BLEIKOFF YOU SAW "DIE"! THEY KILLED THAT GREAT MAN LONG AGO! THIS WAS-- IN WORDS OF IT'S OWN CHOOSING -- A ROBOT ZOMBIE!
AND SUDDENLY AROUND THE WORLD, THE BURSTING OF A NIGHTMARE BUBBLE!
WHAT AM I DOING HERE?
I DON'T KNOW, MONSIEUR, ANYMORE THAN I CAN ACCOUNT FOR MY OWN PRESENCE!
GOOD GRIEF! DO YOU REALIZE HOW CLOSE WE CAME TO DESTROYING OUR ONLY PROTECTION AGAINST INVASION?
I GUESS THAT WAS THE WHOLE FANTASTIC SCHEME! BUT IT FAILED!
LATER, ABOARD THE ENTERPRISE . . . .
IMAGINE! ALL THAT TIME WE WERE THE ONLY INDEPENDENT MINDS ON EARTH!
ACTUALLY, MR. SCOTT, I'VE ALWAYS FOUND YOUR MIND TO BE COMPLETELY INDEPENDENT -- OF LOGIC!
HA-HA-HA-HA!
THE END


STAR TREK
WHITMAN
30¢
STAR TREK
A TRIANGLE OF PERIL:
an alien beast—
McCoy's daughter—
and the Enterprise!
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THE PLAN IS TO REDUCE THE IMPACT OF THE CRASH BY NOT OPPOSING THE MAMMOTH FORCE!
WE'LL REVERSE DIRECTION AND RUN **WITH** THE STORM! I WANT EVERY LAST ION SQUEEZED OUT OF THOSE EN-GINES, MR. SCOTT!
AYE, CAPTAIN! IT'S OUR ONLY PLAY!
RUNNING AHEAD OF THE STORM AT MAX-THRUST REDUCES THE FINAL IMPACT! BUT IT'S STILL HORRENDOUS!
EACH SUCCEEDING WAVE OF RADIO ENERGY BRINGS FREAKISH EFFECTS!
RADIO WAVES PENETRATING HULL! TURN-ING EVERY-THING RED!
ONLY BEGINNING! BRACE YOURSELF! WORSE TO COME!
CRRACKLE
PHZZZT
EYAAA! LOOK! OUR OWN BONES! HOW MUCH MORE, CAPTAIN?
CAN'T PREDICT! SOME COSMIC STORMS—BIG AS A SOLAR SYSTEM!
CRACKLE
KWAM

TRAVELING AT ALMOST INCOMPREHENSIBLE SPEED, THE WAVES OF MASSED ENERGY FINALLY PASS!
I WANT A SONAR SCAN OF THE SHIP'S HULL AND MAIN SUPPORTS, MR. SPOCK! DAMAGE ASSESSMENT—FAST!
IT'S ALREADY UNDERWAY, CAPTAIN!
AS THE PROBING SIGNALS BOUNCE BACK FROM THEIR TARGETS...
A MAJOR CRACK IN THE HULL'S FORE-SECTION, SECTORS 29-G AND H! WE CAN PEFORM SOME TOPICAL REPAIRS TO REDUCE STRESS!
DO WHATEVER YOU NEED TO HOLD US TOGETHER UNTIL WE CAN REACH A REPAIR BASE!
LIKE SO MANY ANTS CRAWLING OVER AN IRON HILL, THE REPAIR CREW, LED BY MR. SPOCK, SETS TO WORK!
WITH MR. SPOCK HIMSELF AT THE CONTROLS, A LASER-WELDER QUICKLY SEALS THE OUTER FISSURE!
SOON AFTER, AS THE CAPTAIN ADDRESSES AN ANXIOUS CREW...
MR. SPOCK REPORTS THE "PATIENT" WILL LIVE—AND CARRY US TO THE NEAREST REPAIR BASE—EARTH'S MOON!
A FURLOUGH ON EARTH! YAHOOOO!

WITH EACH DAY, THE MILK WHITE MOON LOOMS LARGER AND THE CREW'S EXCITEMENT GROWS WITH IT!
—THE STEAKS ARE TWO INCHES THICK AND THEY MAKE A MURVONIAN COCONUT PUNCH THAT TASTES LIKE PARADISE IN A GLASS!
SOUNDS GOOD ENOUGH TO DRINK! AND I HEAR—
—THE ALPHA CENTAURI REGIONAL OPERA COMPANY IS TOURING EARTH! MAYBE, IF WE'RE LUCKY—
AN **ALPHAURIAN OPERA**—WHERE THEY SING **BETWEEN** THE KEYS? IF WE'RE **REALLY** LUCKY, THEY WILL BE **SOLD OUT!**
IN THE CAPTAIN'S QUARTERS...
I SUPPOSE YOU'LL VISIT YOUR DAUGHTER, BONES! IS SHE STILL AT SCHOOL?
SHE GRADUATED THREE YEARS AGO! IN FACT, BARBARA IS NOW AN ASSISTANT PROFESSOR AT UREY UNIVERSITY! SAY, JIM—
—WHY DON'T YOU COME WITH ME, I MEAN, IF YOU HAVE NO OTHER PLANS!
NOPE, NO OTHER PLANS! AND I ALWAYS DO WHAT MY DOCTOR ORDERS—**DOCTOR!**
AT ALMOST THE SAME MOMENT...
—THEN, AFTER THE ENGINEERS' CLUB, I'LL VISIT MY BROTHER ROBBY'S FAMILY IN GLASGOW! WOULD YOU JOIN ME?
HE'S THE ROCKET ENGINE DESIGNER, EH? BRILLIANT WORK! BUT FAMILY LIFE IS NOT MY SPECIAL PLEASURE, MR. SCOTT!

WHAT YOU CALL LONELINESS, WE VULCANS REGARD AS BLESSED SOLITUDE! THERE'S A NEW BRANCH OF ANTI-MATTER PHYSICS I WANT TO STUDY!
WELL, IF THAT'S YOUR PLEASURE—
BUT LATER, AS A LAUGHING, NOISY CREW DEBARKS...
WHAT IS THIS STRANGELY ODD AND EMPTY SENSATION? IS IT—
—SOME DISTANT COUSIN TO WHAT OTHERS CALL— LONELINESS?
SHORTLY, AT UREY UNIVERSITY...
HANG ON WHILE I FIND OUT WHERE BARBARA'S OFFICE IS!
RIGHT! GET CLEAR DIRECTIONS! WE'RE NOT USED TO LAND NAVIGATION!
INFORMATION
X TERRESTRIAL ANIMAL RESEARCH
EEEYAAAAAA
WHAT IN—? A WOMAN'S SCREAM! FILLED WITH TERROR!
X TERRESTRIAL ANIMAL RESEARCH
AS KIRK DASHES INTO THE ANIMAL RESEARCH AREA...
EEEYAAAAAA
PUSH YOURSELF AS FAR FROM THAT THING AS YOU CAN—SO I CAN GET IN A CLEAR SHOT!

NO! STOP! DON'T SHOOT!
WITH A SWIFT GRACEFULNESS, THE YOUNG WOMAN EXTRICATES HERSELF.
JOBO IS ALWAYS PLAYFUL AFTER HE'S BEEN FED!
PLAY? BUT I HEARD YOU SCREAM! IT WAS ENOUGH TO CHILL A MERCURIAN VOLCANO!
AS THOUGH IN ANSWER, THE WOMAN PULLS A BIT OF FOOD FROM HER POCKET AND FLIPS IT TO THE BEAST!
EEEYAAAAA
THE RYKUNIAN OCTOPUS AL-WAYS SCREAMS WHEN EXCITED!
THEN, AS SHE EYES HIS INSIGNIA...
PERHAPS YOU ARE JUST A BIT PHASER-HAPPY, CAPTAIN! I UNDER-STAND THAT COMES WITH A STARSHIP CAREER!
HOLD IT! I'M THE ONE WHO THOUGHT HE WAS SAVING YOUR LIFE, REMEMBER?
AH-HAAA!
I SEE YOU TWO MANAGED TO MEET WITHOUT ME!
Y-YOU MEAN SHE'S YOUR—
DAD!

BUT YOUR MESSAGE SAID YOU WEREN'T ARRIVING UNTIL—
—OHHH! THAT MEANS YOU ARE CAPTAIN KIRK! THEN MAY I SAY—
—THAT I MEANT EVERY WORD OF IT!
HA-HA-HA-HA! GOOD GIRL! I WAS AFRAID YOU WERE GOING TO OFFER SOME MEALY-MOUTHED APOLOGY! HA-HA!
YOU MIGHT HAVE MENTIONED SHE'S A XENOZOOLOGIST!
WHAT DID YOU THINK I TAUGHT—COOKING AND SEWING?
SPEAKING OF COOKING, I SPOTTED A GREAT SEA-FOOD HOUSE NEAR HERE!
LATER, AS BARBARA LEAVES THE TABLE...
I'M GLAD THE KNIVES AREN'T TOO SHARP HERE! I THINK SHE'S AFTER MY SKIN, McCOY!
THAT'S SOMETHING ELSE I NEGLECTED TO MENTION! BARBARA'S MOTHER WASN'T CUT OUT TO BE A STARSHIP DOCTOR'S WIFE! SO—
—WHEN WE SPLIT, BARBARA WENT TO A BOARDING SCHOOL! SHE'S NEVER FOR-GIVEN ME FOR THAT—OR ANY MAN IN A STARSHIP UNIFORM!
YES, YOU MIGHT HAVE MENTIONED THAT, TOO!

I JUST SPOKE WITH MY OFFICE! HAVE EITHER OF YOU SEEN A GIANT VRELL—FULL GROWN?
NO, HONEY! THOSE THINGS ARE AWFULLY RARE!
WELL, I'VE GOT ONE! THEY'RE UNLOADING THE FIRST MATURE VRELL ON EARTH—RIGHT NOW! COME ON!
A MATURE VRELL IS TELEPATHIC, ISN'T IT, MS. McCOY?
NOT QUITE! THEY HAVEN'T MUCH TO COMMUNICATE—INTELLIGENCE LEVEL OF A DOG OR HORSE! BUT—
SPEEDWALK TO UREY UNIV.
—A FULL-GROWN VRELL IS A NATURAL TELEPATHIC RELAY! TWO PEOPLE STANDING NEAR ONE NEEDN'T SPEAK! HE EXCHANGES THOUGHTS BETWEEN THEM!
HE DOESN'T UNDERSTAND A WORD? POOR GUY—HE'S A POSTMAN WHO CAN'T READ!
DID YOU SAY POOR GUY?
A—A FIGURE OF SPEECH!
UNGAAA!
ISN'T HE GLORIOUS?

NO NARCO-DART GUN, SPENCER! HE'D BE DOPEY FOR DAYS! AND I WANT TO BEGIN WORK AT ONCE! THE CHAINS GO, TOO—WHEN HE TRUSTS ME!
MS. McCOY—HE'S A **KILLER!**
I KEEP DOZENS OF OTHER ANIMALS THAT YOU CALL KILLERS! NOT ONE OF THEM IN CHAINS! TRUST AN ANIMAL AND IT TRUSTS YOU!
I'LL TRUST MY NARCO-DARTS AND CHAINS!
LOOK, FRIEND—YOUR FAVORITE FOOD—SOLITHIAN ASPARAGUS! I'VE BEEN GROWING IT HERE—FOR THE DAY WHEN I GOT A GIANT VRELL!
CAREFUL, BARBARA! THOSE CHAINS AREN'T VERY TIGHT! HE CAN REACH YOU!
THAT'S IT, FELLER! WE'RE GOING TO BE GREAT FRIENDS!
UNGAAAAA
WOULD YOU GET A LOAD OF THAT!
THAT'S A VERY GUTSY DAUGHTER YOU'VE GOT, DOC!

AND, MINUTES LATER...
OKAY, SPENCER, LOCK HIM IN THE AMPITHEATRE UNTIL WE HAVE A SHELTER BIG ENOUGH FOR HIM!
NICE WORK, MS. McCOY!
AS I APPROACHED THE VRELL, I RECEIVED ONE OF YOUR THOUGHTS, CAPTAIN KIRK! THE ANSWER IS— I CAN'T GO TO THE THEATRE WITH YOU!
RIGHT! UNLESS YOU CAN FIND AN EXCUSE TO BREAK YOUR DATE WITH MR. NORRIS!
MR. NORRIS! GOOD GRIEF, THEN YOU READ MY—
—OHHH, THAT VRELL REALLY IS A DANGEROUS CREATURE!
ALLOW ME TO THINK UP A GOOD ALIBI FOR MR. NORRIS!
AT ABOUT THE SAME TIME, IN THE SPACE ENGINEERS' CLUB...
AND I DON'T MIND TELLIN' YA, JIGO, THREE COSMIC STORMS IS ENOUGH!
I DON'T KNOW ANYBODY ELSE WHO'S EXPERIENCED THREE, SCOTTY! EVEN AMONG THE OLD SPACE DOGS!
DON'T LOOK, BUT ISN'T THAT "RED" GARVIN? I THOUGHT WE EXPELLED HIM FROM THE CLUB!
COULDN'T! HE WAS NEVER CONVICTED OF ANY CRIME! IN FACT, SOME OF THE MEN FEEL CAPTAIN KIRK WAS TOO HARD ON HIM!

"TOO HARD, MY FOOT! THAT HUMAN-RAT ALMOST COST US ALL OUR NECKS ON THE PLANET ORTHOO!"
TO YOUR PEOPLE IT IS MERELY A GIANT RUBY, BUT TO THE ORTHOOS, IT IS THE GREAT EYE OF ARA! SACRED BEYOND ALL ELSE!
I UNDERSTAND, KING YO! AND I PERSONALLY ASSURE ITS SAFETY WHILE WE ARE HERE!
WE'LL USE A TWO-TIER GUARD SYSTEM! GARVIN, YOU'RE IN COMMAND OF THE INNER GUARD! SGT. LOI HERE WILL GUARD THE OUTER CIRCLE!
"THEN, ON THE THIRD NIGHT..."
HELP! THE RED-HEADED GUARD SLEEPS, AND THE GREAT EYE OF ARA HAS BEEN STOLEN!
"CAPTAIN KIRK WAS 24 HOURS NEGOTIATIN' FOR OUR VERY LIVES!"
I HAD TO PLEDGE THE KING 20 MILLION CREDITS TO GET US OFF THE HOOK! HEADQUARTERS WILL LOVE THAT!
NO EXCUSE, SIR! I PLAIN FEEL ASLEEP AND—I GUESS THE THIEVES GOT PAST ME!
YES, BUT LOI HERE SAYS THAT NOTHING GOT PAST HIM! SO HOW COULD ANY THIEF REACH YOU ON THE INSIDE?
WELL—MAYBE HE DOZED OFF TOO! OR, WELL, LOI IS QUITE A LADY'S MAN AND THESE ORTHOO GIRLS ARE MIGHTY PRETTY!

YOU'RE A LIAR, GARVIN!
HOLD IT! LOI SUBMITTED HIMSELF TO A NEURO-VERITY TEST—AND IT SAID HE SPOKE THE TRUTH! WILL YOU TAKE A N-V, GARVIN?
I WILL NOT! REGULATIONS SAY I DON'T HAVE TO! AND WITHOUT IT, YOU HAVE NOTHING ON ME!
TRUE! BUT I CAN KICK YOU OFF THE ENTERPRISE IF I WISH! AND I WISH!
YOU'RE RAILROADING AN INNOCENT MAN, CAPTAIN KIRK! BUT MY TURN WILL COME ONE DAY! WAIT AND SEE!
BUT YOU NEVER RECOVERED THE GREAT EYE! AND GARVIN DIDN'T TAKE IT WITH HIM! SO HOW CAN YOU BE SURE—
THAT HE'S GUILTY? JUST AS SURE AS I AM THAT HE'S HEAD-IN' THIS WAY, MON!
HI, MR. SCOTT! I HEAR YOU HAD A CLOSE CALL WITH A COSMIC STORM! IT COULDN'T HAPPEN TO A NICER COMMANDER!
I'LL TELL CAPTAIN KIRK YOU WERE ASKIN' ABOUT HIS HEALTH, GARVIN! IT'LL THRILL HIM TO THE VERY MARROW!

STAR TREK
FURLOUGH TO FURY
PART II
THE GREAT EYE OF ARA
CAPTAIN'S PERSONAL LOG: "DR. McCOY'S DAUGHTER DID ACCEPT MY THEATRE INVITATION! IT WAS WHILE WE WERE ENJOYING THE XANATHIAN COMEDY, "BRIDE OF THREE WORLDS" THAT THE TROUBLE BEGAN WITH THE GIANT VRELL!"
ARRRRRRR
SURE HE TOOK A SWIPE AT YOU, SPENCER! WHAT ELSE WOULD THE BEAST DO AFTER YOU WHACKED HIM WITH THAT WHIP! NOW KEEP AWAY!
DON'T WORRY ABOUT ME, CLAGG! I'VE GOT A NARCO-DART WITH HIS NAME ON IT! THAT BIG STUPID BEAST IS GOING TO LEARN WHO'S THE ANIMAL AND WHO'S THE KEEPER—RIGHT NOW!

AS SPENCER APPROACHES THE GIANT CREATURE, THE VRELL REARS BACK IN ANTICIPATION AND SUDDENLY...
SNAP!
CRACK!
AND, ALMOST WITH THE SAME MOTION...
ARRRRRRR
EEYAAA
IN ANOTHER MOMENT, A SECOND ARM IS FREE AND...
AH-HHH
UNGAAAAA
EEYAAAA
MS McCOY! GOT TO GET HER—FAST! SHE LEFT AN EMERGENCY NUMBER!
AND, AMID ONE OF THE MAJOR LAUGHS AT THE THEATRE!..
YOU SOUGHT OUR FOUNTAIN OF YOUTH, EARTHMAN? WELL, NOW YOU CAN SOAK YOUR HEAD IN IT!
ATTENTION— PROFESSOR BARBARA McCOY! EMERGENCY! CALL UREY UNIVERSITY AT ONCE!

SOON, AT THE UNIVERSITY...
YOU HEARD THE BULLETIN? THE GIANT VRELL ESCAPED! THAT'S NO LITTLE "PET" TO BE ROAMING FREE!
I'LL BET THAT FOOL SPENCER GOADED THE ANIMAL! I'VE GOT TO FIRE HIM!
NO, I DON'T THINK YOU'LL NEED TO! LOOK!
—THEN, AFTER THE BEAST CRUSHED SPENCER, IT TOOK OFF TOWARD GALILEO TOWER! THE STATE SECURITY MEN HAVE HIM ENCIRCLED THOUGH!
THEY'LL KILL HIM! HE'S TOO VALUABLE FOR THAT!
CRACK!
WHAM!
EVEN AS THEY REACH THE TOWER...
COLONEL MITCHUM, YOU'RE IN COMMAND HERE? ORDER THEM TO STOP FIRING!
GET BACK, WOMAN! WHEN THAT THING FALLS YOU DON'T WANT TO EVEN BE CLOSE!

I KNOW HE'S KILLED A MAN AND CAUSED ENORMOUS DESTRUCTION, BUT I CAN HANDLE HIM! I'M DR. BARBARA McCOY!
WHAP! CRACK!
UNGARRR
OH, YES—THE FREAK-ANIMAL DOCTOR! IT'S NOT UP TO ME, McCOY! I'LL CONTACT MY COMMAND HQ—AND WE'LL SEE!
MEANWHILE, NOT FAR FROM THE ROCKET ENGINEERS' CLUB...
ONE QUESTION, RED—YOU'VE PLANNED A GREAT JOB—WORTH MILLIONS—AND NURSED IT FOR YEARS, SO HOW COME—
—THAT I'M WILLING TO SPLIT THREE WAYS? BECAUSE I WANT MORE THAN CASH!
THERE IS NOTHING MORE THAN CASH!
ONE THING'S MORE IMPORTANT TO ME! NAILING CAPTAIN JAMES KIRK'S SCALP TO A STARSHIP WALL!
LOOK AT THAT POOR BUM! I'M SYMPATHETIC TO ANY MAN WHO'S BEEN KICKED OUT OF THE SERVICE! EVEN DRUNKS!
SNORE SNORE
HELP AN OLD STARSHIP VET
AS THE TRIO TURNS THE CORNER, THE SNORING "DRUNK" COMES STRANGELY TO LIFE!
SO THAT'S WHAT GARVIN IS UP TO! WHEN HE CAME BACK TO QUESTION ME ABOUT WHICH REPAIR CENTER THE SHIP WAS AT, I KNEW HE HAD SOMETHING GOING!
YOU WORK LONG ENOUGH AROUND THE THUNDER OF ROCKET ENGINES AND YOU LEARN TO READ LIPS!
IF GARVIN CARRIES OUT HIS PLAN, THE ENTERPRISE IS DOOMED—AND SPOCK IS A DEAD MAN!

BUT, AS HE ROUNDS THE CORNER...
HI, SCOTTY! LOOKING FOR ME, SWEET-HEART?
WHUMP!
MEANWHILE...
OKAY, MY ORDERS ARE TO CEASE FIRE AND GIVE YOU A SHOT AT IT, DOCTOR! ONE SHOT!
I'M GOING UP THERE WITH YOU, BARBARA!
NO, CAPTAIN! THAT COULD SPOIL MY ONLY CHANCE TO GAIN HIS FAITH!
BARBARA—IF I WERE GOING, HE'S THE MAN I'D WANT UP THERE WITH ME! PLEASE!
A SILENT MOMENT PASSES BETWEEN FATHER AND DAUGHTER, AND THEN...
YOU'LL STAY OUT OF SIGHT, CAPTAIN?
YOU'RE THE BOSS! DO YOUR STUFF, DOCTOR!
MINUTES LATER, APPROACHING THE PEAK OF THE SCENIC TOWER...
IT'S ME! YOU REMEMBER ME, FRIEND—DON'T YOU?
ARRR

AT THAT MOMENT, IN A VAST DISPOSAL CENTER...
GOT TO GET OUT OF HERE! WARN SPOCK! GARVIN'S ON HIS WAY TO DESTROY THE ENTERPRISE!
WHAM
WHAM
WHAM
AND, AT THE UNIVERSITY...
HE **REMEMBERS** ME, JIM! HE **DOES!** HE'S FRIENDLY!
SUDDENLY...
UNGARRRRR
WHAT IS IT!
HE'S CAUGHT YOUR SCENT, JIM!
NO, STOP! HE'S YOUR FRIEND! HE DOESN'T WANT TO HARM—
AND, IN HER BLIND ANXIETY, SHE REACHES PERILOUS-LY FAR OUT!
EYYAAAAA!

INSTANTLY, THE GIANT BEAST HURLS HIMSELF OVER THE SIDE!
WHOOSHH!
EASY, FELLER! EASY! YOU CAN DO IT! YOU'RE EVERYTHING SHE THOUGHT YOU WERE!
UNNNG! UNNNG!
WITH ONE FINAL EFFORT, THE GIANT VRELL DELIVERS THE WOMAN AND THEN...
ARRGGG
HAD NO STRENGTH LEFT! SOME OF THOSE SHOTS MUST HAVE CAUGHT HIM!
ONLY A FEEBLE SPARK OF LIFE REMAINS IN THE GREAT BEAST NOW!
A THOUGHT MESSAGE! HE'S STILL RELAYING THEM! I-I DIDN'T UNDERSTAND, IT THOUGH! WAS IT FROM YOU?
NO! BUT I THINK I UNDERSTOOD MOST OF IT! AND IT MEANS I HAVEN'T GOT A SECOND TO SPARE!
SOME HOURS LATER AT STARSHIP LUNAR REPAIR BASE-17...
HALT! WHO GOES THERE?
HI, ZARI! I FORGOT TONIGHT'S PASSWORD! HOW'S YOUR SISTER'S KID? THE ONE THEY OPERATED ON!

AT THE FAMILIAR QUESTIONING, THE GUARD RELAXES AND...
RRR EEEE
UGHHH!
LT. SULU
THIS USED TO BE MY CABIN! WHAT I WANT IS STASHED INSIDE THE VENTILATING SYSTEM!
THERE IT IS! THE GREAT EYE!
WOW! AND TO THINK YOU HAD IT HIDDEN RIGHT UNDER CAPTAIN KIRK'S NOSE ALL THIS TIME!
OKAY, WE GOT WHAT WE CAME FOR! LET'S HAUL OUT OF HERE!
NOT UNTIL I'VE PLANTED THIS TIME BOMB! I'M GOING TO BLOW A FORTY FOOT HOLE IN THIS 'NOBLE' SHIP OF KIRK'S!
AT THAT VERY SECOND JUST A FEW DOORS AWAY...
IT'S A FASCINATING THEORY! AND, IF IT CAN BE PRACTICALLY APPLIED, TRAVEL BETWEEN DIMENSIONS WILL ONE DAY BE CONDUCTED SAFELY!

AND WE SHALL HAVE THE GLORIOUS OPPORTUNITY TO SPREAD OUR MASSIVE CONFUSION TO COUNTLESS OTHER PLANES OF EXISTENCE!
THEN, AS GARVIN AND HIS MEN EXIT...
WHAT'S YOUR HURRY, MR. GARVIN?
KIRK—AND McCOY! BUT SCOTTY SAID YOU WERE ON EARTH!
DOES THIS FEEL LIKE WE'RE STILL ON EARTH?
SMACK
GET UP, RED! I WAS JUST BEGIN-NING TO ENJOY THIS DANCE!
LOOK OUT, JIM! BEHIND YOU!
THAT'S A BEAUTIFUL STONE, BUT I DON'T THINK THE CAPTAIN'S HEAD WOULD MAKE A GOOD SETTING FOR IT!

ALL RIGHT, STOP RIGHT THERE, CAPTAIN! WE'RE TAKING THE ROCK AND GETTING OUT OF HERE—FAST!
WITH A SINGLE MOTION, McCOY GRABS THE ROCK, AND...
UGGH!
AHHHH, THAT POOR RUBY JUST WASN'T DESTINED TO LEAD A QUIET LIFE!
YOU ONLY TAKE HALF THE MARBLES, CAPTAIN! IN A FEW MINUTES THAT SHIP IS GOING TO BLOW SKY HIGH! AND YOU'LL NEVER FIND THE BOMB I HID!
MY MOTHER ALWAYS TOLD HER KIDDIES— "NEVER SAY, 'NEVER'"!
MOMENTS LATER...
IT WAS IN THE DUCT WHERE HE HID THE RUBY! JUST THE WAY SCOTTY HEARD HIM TELL THE OTHERS!
SCOTTY? HOW THE DEVIL DID YOU FIND HIM IN THAT TRUNK?
"WE DIDN'T FIND HIM— HE FOUND US! OR HIS THOUGHTS DID!"
THOUGHT MESSAGE BEING RELAYED BY THE VRELL! RED GARVIN GOING TO TAKE THE GREAT EYE—HIDDEN IN AIR DUCT ON SHIP!

BUT HOW COULD THE VRELL RECEIVE THAT MESSAGE FROM SO FAR OFF?
I GUESS IT WAS A COMBINATION OF MR. SCOTT'S DESPERATION—AND A DYING EFFORT BY THE VRELL!
IT TOOK A FREAK TELEPATHIC BEAST TO BEAT ME!
MY NOSE! WHAT BEAT US WAS WAITING TO SET THAT BOMB! YOU AND YOUR DUMB REVENGE!
LATER, WITH THE SHIP REPAIRED...
WELL, DOCTOR, I CAN'T HELP ADMITTING I'M PROUD OF MY "LITTLE" GIRL!
THAT GOES TWO WAYS, DOCTOR! TAKE CARE —PAPA!
I SUPPOSE WE WON'T BE SEEING EACH OTHER FOR A LONG STRETCH, BARBARA!
OH, I DON'T KNOW! ONE OF THESE DAYS I MIGHT JUST DECIDE TO DO MY EXTRATERRESTRIAL STUDIES—AS YOUR CHIEF XENOZOOLOGIST! WHO KNOWS?
WELL NOW, MR. SPOCK, WEREN'T YOU A WEE SURPRISED THAT IT WAS MY "FEEBLE" THOUGHT PROCESSES THAT SAVED YOU?
I NEVER DOUBTED YOUR NATIVE INTELLIGENCE, MR. SCOTT. ONLY YOUR REFUSAL TO EVER USE IT!